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TEHRI GARHWAL

52

UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



TEHRI GARHWAL

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FOREWORD

THE draft of the district gazetteer of Tehri Garhwal was sent to press by my predecessor, Sri A. A. Rizvi on March, 1969. For certain administrative reasons its publication was withheld by the government and kept pending with the press. Now it is being released for restricted supply only by the press to make it available for use for government purposes. It is not meant for general sale presently. A revised volume will be brought out shortly for general sale to the public.

LUCKNOW :
Dated May 26, 1976.

MADHURI SRIVASTAVA,
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PREFACE

This, the thirteenth in the series of the revised gazetteers of the districts of Uttar Pradesh, is not, in fact, a revised gazetteer. No gazetteer of the district of Tehri Garhwal was written since prior to 1949, the district did not exist and the area covered by it formed part of the princely state of Tehri. The early gazetteers were published only for the districts of British India and not for the territories included in the princely states. The present volume is, therefore, the first regular district gazetteer of Tehri Garhwal.

The Himalayan Districts of the North-Western Provinces of India, by E. T. ATKINSON, contained considerable general information relating to this area. H. G. Walton's *British Garhwal : A Gazetteer,* (Allahabad, 1910), had a small chapter devoted to the Tehri state. Information supplied by these works was, however, inadequate, and various other sources, indicated in the bibliography appearing at the end of this volume, besides a variety of unpublished official information, had to be drawn upon for the purposes of this gazetteer.

The first draft of this gazetteer, which testified to the hard and patient work undertaken by my predecessor, Sri K. D. Agarwal, his assistant editor, Sri R. K. Mishra, and other officers under him, in preparing it, was transmitted to the Editor, Indian Gazetters, Ministry of Education, Government of India On its return from the Government of India, the incorporation in it of the suggestions made by them and its final vetting was undertaken by me, and in this task I had the great advantage of the help extended to me by Dr. J. P. Jain who is very well informed and possesses richly varied experience.

The Indian words used in this volume have been itlicised and their meaning given in the glossary appearing at the end, except such words as have been adopted in the English language and find place in standard English dictionaries. For purposes of statistics of population and other data related to them the census of 1961 has been generally made the basis.

The scheme of the contents of this gazetteer conforms as closely as possible to the all-India pattern laid down by the Government of India.

I should like to thank, Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Indian Gazetteers, Government of India and all those officials and non-officials who have helped in the collection of material and in the preparation, printing and publication of this gazetteer.

LUCKNOW:
Dated March 21, 1969.

S. A. A. RIZVI.



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सत्यमेव जयते

CHAPTER I
GENERAL*

Origin of Name of District

Tehri Garhwal forms part of Garhwal Division, a vast hilly tract, comprising the 4 districts of Chamoli, Garhwal, Uttar Kashi and Tehri Garhwal. Garhwal is usually explained as meaning the country of forts (*garhs*). As tradition has it, this tract was a "*Bawani*" (*bawan* meaning fifty-two) occupied by fifty-two chiefs, each with his own fort. Garhwal has also been interpreted to denote the country of *gadhs*—a *gadh* being the local term for a glen. Tehri, the prefix, is the principal town of the district and has been added to distinguish it from the neighbouring district of Garhwal (Pauri Garhwal). Tehri itself has been suggested to be a corrupt form of *Trihari*—a place which washes away the three types of sin—sins born of thought, word and deed.

Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

Location and Boundaries—The District lies between Lat. 30°3′ and 30°53′ N. and Land 77°56′ and 79°04′ E., and is bounded on the north by Uttar Kashi, on the east by Chamoli, on the south by Garhwal and on the west by Dehra Dun districts. The maximum length from east to west is 109 km. and the maximum breadth from north to south is about 70 km.

Area—According to the central statistical organisation of India, the district has an area of 4,519 sq. km. The Settlement of 1965 places the total area of the district at 88,30,759 *nalis* (one *nali*=1/20 acre=.02025 hectare) excluding the forest area which was not measured in the Settlement. The district stands thirty-fifth in respect of area amongst the districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Population—According to the census of 1961, the population of the district is 3,47,736, the number of females being 1,89,827. The rural population of the district is 3,40,140 (females 1,87,077) and the urban 7,596 (females 2,750). The district stands 51st in Uttar Pradesh in respect of population which is 70 per cent higher than what it was 60 years ago.

History of District as Administrative Unit

Centuries back, the whole of Garhwal region was divided into a number of petty chieftainries (said to have been fifty-two in number) which were subsequently united under Ajaypal who was 37th in the line of descent among Panwar rulers who had started the process of integration

*Figures pertaining to population relate to 1961 and those of area to 1967-68 unless otherwise indicated

in the year 888 A.D. In 1803, the Gurkhas invaded this region and the then ruler of Garhwal region, Raja Pradyuman Sah, was killed in battle at Dehra Dun. His son Sudarshan Sah succeeded in freeing the region from the Gurkhas in 1815 A.D. with the help of the East India Company which, however, compelled him to cede to it a substantial area, leaving for him only what then came to be known as Tehri Garhwal. It was governed by Sudarshan Sah and his descendants as an Indian state till July 31, 1949 when it was merged in the Indian Union and became a district of the State of Uttar Pradesh on December 1, 1949. The district then comprised the tahsils of Rawain, Tehri, Pratapnagar and Devaprayag.

In 1956, two villages of tahsil and district Dehra Dun named Tapoban and Dhalwala were transferred to tahsil Devaprayag. The outlying tahsil of Rawain containing the parganas of Rawain and Uttar Kashi and consisting of 19 *pattis* and 672 villages was separated in 1960 to form the border district of Uttar Kashi, vide G. O. No. 906/IC, dated February 24, 1960. District Tehri Garhwal as it now stands comprises of parganas Udaipur, Jaunpur, Narendra Nagar, Chilla, Chandrabadni, Pratapnagar, Bhilung, Bhardar and Kirti Nagar.

Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas

The district has been divided into 2 subdivisions—Tehri-Pratapnagar (with headquarters at Tehri) and Kirti Nagar (with headquarters at Kirti Nagar). The former comprises of tahsils Tehri and Pratapnagar (both having their tahsil headquarters at Tehri). The subdivision of Kirti Nagar comprises of the single tahsil of Devaprayag with tahsil headquarters at Devaprayag.

Tahsil Tehri, which comprises the north-western part of the district, is bounded on the north by the district of Uttar Kashi, on the east by tahsils Pratapnagar and Devaprayag, the latter forming its southern boundary also. On the south-west, west and north-west lies the district of Dehra Dun. It has a population of 97,395, the rural population being 92,887 (females, 50,768) and the urban 4,508 (females 1,516). It includes 1 *peshkari*, 14 *pattis*, 621 inhabited and 30 uninhabited villages; and the town of Tehri. For development purposes, the tahsil has been divided into 3 development blocks: Tholdhar, Chamba and Jaunpur.

Tahsil Pratapnagar, which comprises of the northern part of the district and lies to the left of the Bhagirathi river, is bounded on the north-west and north by the district of Uttar Kashi, on the north-east by the district of Chamoli and on the east, south-east and south by the tahsil of Devaprayag and on the west by the Bhagirathi river which separates it from tahsil Tehri. It has a population of 97,505 (females 56,018) and contains 16 *pattis* and 489 villages of which 26 are uninhabited. For development purposes, it has been divided into the Pratapnagar, Jakhanidhar and Bhillangana development blocks.

Tahsil Devaprayag, the largest tahsil in the district, comprises of the southern and south-eastern part of the district and is bounded on the north by tahsils Tehri and Pratapnagar, on the east by the district of Chamoli, on the south-east and south by the district of Garhwal and on the west by the district of Dehra Dun. It has a population of 1,52,836 (females 83,041), the rural population being 1,49,748 (females 81,807), and the urban 3,088 (females 1,234). It contains 24 *pattis*, 856 inhabited and 20 uninhabited villages and the towns of Narendra Nagar and Devaprayag. For development purposes, the tahsil has been divided into four development blocks: Narendra Nagar, Devaprayag, Kirti Nagar and Jakholi.

Thanas—For purposes of police administration, there are three thanas (police stations), one each at Narendra Nagar, Kirti Nagar and Tehri.

Topography

The district lies in the outer ranges of the Himalayas and consists of a series of ridges and valleys, its elevation rising from 365 m. above sea-level near Muni-ki-Reti in the south-west to 6,577 m. in the north-east at Bhagirath Kantha or Bharti Kantha. The ridges and valleys are generally covered by forests except the snowy ranges in the north-east. Villages are located on the hill sides at lower elevations with their cultivation interspersed with patches of bush or inferior forests where the land is too steep or poor for cultivation. Physiographically, the district may be divided into two main parts (*a*) the mountains and ridges, and (*b*) the valleys.

Mountains and Ridges—The Bhagirath Kantha (also called Bhartekhunta or Bharti Kantha) which is a mountain of the Satopanth group in Uttar Kashi is the highest mountain in the district and lies in its extreme north-eastern part where the boundaries of districts Uttar Kashi, Chamoli and Tehri-Garhwal meet. The tract lying to the east of the Bhagirathi river is interspersed by ranges emanating from the Bhagirath Kantha. One of its ranges separates the district from that of Chamoli and runs southward to the west of Kedarnath and Trijugi Narayan peaks through the Kinkhola Khal (3,750.7 m.), the Bajrang Top (3,598.14 m.) and the Saundh Kothi Tibba (3,188.51 m.) and ends to the right of the Mandakini river. Yet another range of the Bhagirath Kantha runs north-westward, separating the district from that of Uttar Kashi and goes to the Rudragar Kantha (6,903.7 m.) and the Dropadi Kantha (6,632.45 m.) and then, bending southward goes to the Shastru Tal or Sahastra Tal (5,150 m.) where it divides into two branches. One of them descends southward through the Hatputhi Saundh and separates the valley of the Bal Ganga on the west from that of the Bhillangana on the east and ends near the village of Sendul in *patti* Kemar, tahsil Pratapnagar. The other branch, running westward along the northern boundary of the district and descending to the Kushkalian peak, goes to Adala mountain (3,424 m.). From this point, it bifurcates into two branches, one descending southward through Kumandagarh and Dwarikhala and forming the waterparting ridge between the

tributaries of the Jalkur and the Bhagirathi in the west and those of the Bal Ganga and the Bhillangana (in the east) and ending near Ghonti. The other branch, running through the district of Uttar Kashi, reaches this district to the north of Mukhem in tahsil Pratapnagar. From there it forms the northern boundary of the district and, descending to the Satranj Saundh and the Sem Danda (2,894 m.), ends near the confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Jalkur. A mountain range running from the Kinkhola Khal and descending to Panwali Kantha (3,133 m.), the Bisone Tibba (3,101 m.) and the Rajbonga (2,760 m.) ends on the right of the Alaknanda river near the village of Malyansu. A ridge from the Rajbonga peak runs westward to the Maniknath peak (2,401 m.) and then, bending southward to the Chandrabadni (2,277 m.), ends near Devaprayag. Offshoots from the Chandrabadni peak lead north-westward to Tehri and westward to Semlansyu. A ridge descending southward from the Bajrang Top and separating the valley of the Lastar on the west and that of the Mandakini on the east ends near Suryaprayag.

One of the principal branches of the Bandar punch group of mountains in district Uttar Kashi separates the valley of the Bhagirathi from that of the Yamuna and descends to the Nag Tibba mountain (3,027 m.) in the northern part of tahsil Tehri. The ridges radiating from the Nag Tibba peak extend throughout the western part of the district to the right of the Bhagirathi. One of these ridges, the Bhugdwar, runs south-westward and ends near the Yamuna. Another, the Goriap Danda, descends south-eastward to the Lusanyu Tibba and thereafter is known as the Moriyar Danda and leads towards the Sirkanda peak (2,750 m.) where it forms itself into 3 branches. One runs westward and separates the district from Dehra Dun district and ends near the left bank of the Yamuna in the latter district. Dhanolti, Burans Khanda and Mussooric are situated on this ridge. The other branch comprising the Agarkhala and Kujapuri peaks runs southward for about 50 km., separates the valley of the Song from that of the Huinl and finally ends near the confluence of the Huinl and the Ganga river, opposite Shivpuri. The town of Narendra Nagar is situated on a small ridge attached to this range. The third ridge running through Kanatal, Chamba, Gandial and Ranakot ends near Byansghat on the right of the Ganga river.

From the slopes on either side of these ridges descend several smaller ridges from which the numerous rivers and their tributaries flow. These mountains and ridges are full of natural grandeur and contain a number of beauty spots and religious places.

Valleys—The valleys of the district may be divided into two main groups, the valleys of the Bhagirathi and its tributaries and those of the Yamuna and its tributaries.

The Bhagirathi, along with its tributaries, provides numerous valleys to the district. The valleys of the Yamuna and its tributaries occupy a small area in the north-western part of the district. These valleys are well-wooded up to an altitude of 3,352 m. and above that they are covered with snow during the winter but, with the advent of summer when the snows melt, they are covered with varieties of material flowers, pastures and herbs.

The valley of the Bhagirathi (Ganga) occupies the eastern part of tahsil Tehri, the western part of tahsil Pratapnagar and the south-western part of tahsil Devaprayag and extends from Nagon (a village near the confluence of the Nagon and the Bhagirathi) to the village of Muni-ki-Reti (in the extreme south-west of tahsil Devaprayag). It is bounded on the west by the ridges extending from the Nag Tibba, the Sirkanda, the Kujapuri and the Gandial peaks and, on the east, by the ridges running from the Satranj Saundh, the Kunandagarh and the Chandrabadni peaks. From Nagon to the confluence of the Jalkur and the Bhagirathi and from Devaprayag to Muni-ki-Reti, only those parts which lie to the right of the Ganga, fall within the district. Almost all the big villages lie in the Bhagirathi valley which has the highest density of population in the district. Though a substantial part of the gently sloping hillsides and the level ground found in the valley has been brought under the plough, a greater part of the valley is still covered with forests. The villages are generally situated on the high ridges at considerable distances from the river bed, specially near the minor tributaries of the river. Tehri and Devaprayag are the principal towns of this valley.

The Bhillangana valley extends from the extreme north-eastern part of the district to the town of Tehri near the confluence of the Bhillangana and the Bhagirathi. It occupies the eastern part of tahsil Pratapnagar and a section of tahsil Devaprayag and is bounded on the east by the ranges running from the Kinkhola Khal, the Bisone Tibba, the Maniknath and the Chandrabadni mountains and, on the west, by the ranges descending from the Satranj Saundh and the Adala mountain. The valley, in its upper part, is mainly covered with *banj* and *kharsu* forests and provides extensive and beautiful pasture lands. The middle and the lower parts are covered with *chir* forests, agriculture being confined to the lower parts on the level ground on the banks of the river and its tributaries joining it on either side and on the gently sloping hillsides. Gangi is the northernmost village of this valley. The other large villages situated in the valley are Ghuttu, Ghansali and Ghonti.

The Alaknanda valley occupies the southern portion of the district, beginning from the confluence of the Mandakini and the Alaknanda. It is bounded on the north by the ridge running from the Rajbonga to the Kandikhal mountain from where the ridge turns south, forming the western

boundary of the valley up to Devaprayag. The upper portion of the valley is covered with forests of *banj* and *chir*. In the lower portions of the valley, the forests have been cleared from the level ground and the gently sloping hills and the land so cleared has been brought under cultivation. Kirti Nagar is the principal town in this valley.

Yamuna Valley—Extending from north to south, it occupies the western part of tahsil Tehri. The valleys of the Bhadri Gad and the Aglar open into the main valley of the Yamuna. The whole tract is separated from the valley of the Bhagirathi by a ridge descending from the Nag Tibba to the Sirkanda. A ridge running westward from the Sirkanda peak and separating the district from Dehra Dun district forms the southern boundary of the Aglar valley which is separated from the valley of the Bhadri Gad by a ridge known as the Bhughdwar. The valleys of the Yamuna and its tributaries provide extensive area for agricultural purposes.

Among the minor valleys, the important ones are those of the Mandakini (a tributary of the Alaknanda), the Lastar (a tributary of the Mandakini), the Jalkur (a tributary of the Bhagirathi), the Huinl, the Chandrabhaga and the Song (tributaries of the Ganga), the Bal Ganga (a tributary of the Bhillangana) and the Dharm Ganga which is a tributary of the Bal Ganga itself.

The valley of the Mandakini occupies the eastern part of tahsil Devaprayag, the river forming the boundary between this district and the district of Chamoli. A mountain range running from the Bajrang Tibba and ending near Suryaprayag, the confluence of the Lastar and the Mandakini, separates it from the valley of the Lastar which extends from the Kinkhola Khal in the north of Suryaprayag in the south and is bounded on the west by a ridge descending from the Kinkhola Khal to the Bisone Tibba. The valley of the Jalkur occupies the western part of tahsil Pratapnagar and is bounded on the west by a ridge running southward from Satranj Saundh, the ridge descending southward from the Kumandgarh mountain, forming the eastern boundary of the valley. The valleys of the Bal Ganga and the Dharm Ganga, occupying the central parts of tahsil Pratapnagar, are bounded on the west by the range descending southward from the Adala mountain, the eastern boundary being formed by the range descending from the Shastru Tal and ending near the confluence of the Bal Ganga and the Bhillangana. A ridge descending from the Machharai Tibba to Masar Tal and ending near the confluence of the Dharm Ganga and the Bal Ganga separates the valley of the former in the west from that of the latter in the east. Extending from the Sirkanda peak in tahsil Tehri to the village of Shivpuri, the valley of the Huinl is bounded on the west by a ridge which descends from the Sirkanda to Kujapuri and ends near the bank of the Ganga opposite Shivpuri. This ridge also separates the valley of the Chandna Rao from that of the Huinl. On the east, the

boundary of the Huinl valley is formed by the ridge descending from the Sirkanda mountain to Chamba and Gandial from where a minor ridge running southward ends near Shivpuri. The valleys of the Song and its tributary, the Bandal, along with the valleys of their minor affluents, occupy the south-western part of tahsil Tehri.

River System and Water Resources

The Bhagirathi, the Bhillangana, the Alaknanda and the Yamuna are the principal rivers which along with their numerous tributaries and sub-tributaries carry the entire drainage of the district.

Bhagirathi—Rising from the Gaumukh glacier, 16 km. north of Gangotri in district Uttar Kashi, the river first touches the district near village Nagon where it is joined by the Nagon Gad (on the right) and runs south-eastward till its junction with the Jalkur (which joins it on the left), separating this district from district Uttar Kashi. It then enters the district near village Bhaldiana and, separating tahsil Tehri from tahsil Pratapnagar, flows south-eastward as far as Tehri where it is joined by the Bhillangana on its left bank. It then runs southward, separating tahsil Pratapnagar from tahsil Tehri, till it is joined by the Chandrabhaga Gad on the left after which it separates tahsil Tehri from tahsil Devaprayag for about 8 km., entering the latter near village Seur. Traversing through tahsil Devaprayag in a south-easterly direction, it is joined by the Alaknanda on its left near Devaprayag after which the combined stream is called the Ganga and separates this district from district Garhwal till it finally leaves the district near Muni-ki-Reti. The breadth of the Bhagirathi itself at Devaprayag is about 84 m. The breadth of the united stream there is about 73 m. From Devaprayag, it flows southward to Byansghat, a village on the border of district Garhwal, and then runs north-westwards to Shivpuri in tahsil Devaprayag where it is joined by the Huinl on the right. It then runs south-westward to leave the district near Muni-ki-Reti (also known as Mohan-ki-Reti). All along the district, the river flows in a tortuous course through the hilly tract and is crossed by bridges near Bhaldiana, Tehri, Devaprayag and Lachhaman Jhula. It is fordable only at Muni-ki-Reti.

Jalkur—This river is a tributary of the Bhagirathi and rises in the Adala mountain and runs south-westward through district Uttar Kashi as a minor stream. It touches district Tehri Garhwal near village Khurmola. It then runs southwards forming the northern boundary of the district which it enters near village Nougar in tahsil Pratapnagar and runs south-eastward as a sizeable stream to join the Bhagirathi on the left near village Motana in tahsil Pratapnagar.

Bhillangana—Rising from a glacier near the Bhagirath Kantha in the extreme north-eastern part of the district, the Bhillangana runs south-westward through the central part of tahsil Pratapnagar and, after receiving

the waters of a number of snow-fed streams which join it on either side, becomes a sizeable stream near village Sujani. Flowing on, it separates tahsil Devaprayag (on the left) from tahsil Pratapnagar (on the right) and is joined by the Chanji Gad and the Nailchami Gad from the left near villages Thaeli and Bakera, respectively. Entering tahsil Pratapnagar near village Ghansali and running in the same direction up to village Khand, it takes a westerly course and runs as far as Tehri where it takes a northerly bend to join the Bhagirathi on the left. The river, running through the high mountains, has many waterfalls which can easily be utilised for generating electricity. The Bhillangana is one of the sacred streams and lends its name to a *kshetra* or tract in the *Kedara-khanda* section of the *Skanda Purana*. Because of its conjunction with the Bhagirathi at Tehri, the place was named Ganeshprayag in Puranic times.

Chanji Gad—This stream is a considerable affluent of the Bhallangana and rises in the Temunda Dhar in tahsil Devaprayag and, receiving a number of rivulets from either side, runs south-westward to village Chanji. It then runs westward to join the Bhillangana on the left near village Thaeli.

Nailchami Gad—This stream, which is also a large tributary of the Bhillangana, rises in the Rajbonga mountain and receiving a number of rivulets from either side runs north-westward to join the Bhillangana near village Bahera.

Bal Ganga—This stream, which is also known as the Bal Khela, rises in the Machharai Tibba mountain on the northern border of the district. Running south-westward through tahsil Pratapnagar and receiving the waters of several snow-fed streams, it assumes a considerable size after its junction with the Dharm Ganga near Thati Kathur where it takes a southerly course and joins the Bhillangana near village Sendal.

Dharm Ganga—Rising in the Manmota Kantha, a mountain on the northern border of the district, this is also a snow-fed stream which runs south-westward to Jhala where it turns southward to join the Bal Ganga on the right near village Thati Kathur.

Alaknanda—Rising in district Chamoli, the Alaknanda touches the district after its confluence with the Mandakini from the north near Rudraprayag, in district Garhwal and, running south-westward for about 70 km., separates this district from district Garhwal till its confluence with the Bhagirathi at Devaprayag, after which, the combined stream is known as the Ganga. From Rudraprayag to Devaprayag, the fall of the river is not very rapid and there is a succession of long reaches with intervening short rapids. At Devaprayag, a huge mass of rock appears to have fallen into the river, narrowing it to half its normal breadth just before the confluence. It is about 13 m. in breadth here. The chief tributaries

joining the Alaknanda in the district are the Mandakini, the Bhardari Gad, the Bariar Gad, the Odiar Gad and the Takoli Gad, all of which generally dry up during the summer except the Mandakini.

Mandakini—This stream rises in district Chamoli and touches the district near Pation, a village on the eastern border of the district in tahsil Devaprayag. It runs southward, separating the district from district Chamoli and, after receiving the water of the Lastar from the right, joins the Alaknanda at Rudraprayag.

Bhardari Gad—This stream rises in the south-eastern slope of the Rajbonga mountain in tahsil Devaprayag and runs south-eastward to join the Alaknanda on the right near village Malyansu in tahsil Devaprayag.

Bariar Gad—Rising in the south-western slope of the Rajbonga mountain, this stream runs south-eastward and joins the Alaknanda near the village of Malyansu to the west of the confluence of the Bhardari Gad and the Alaknanda.

Odiar Gad—This stream rises in the western slope of the Rajbonga and runs southward to join the Alaknanda near Kirti Nagar.

Takoli Gad—This stream rises in the south-western slope of the Manik-nath mountain and runs south-eastward through tahsil Devaprayag. It joins the Alaknanda to the east of village Lashmoli.

Huinl—This stream, rising in the eastern slope of the Sirkanda mountain, runs southward through tahsil Tehri as far as Nagani where it enters tahsil Devaprayag. Flowing through tahsil Devaprayag, it joins the Ganga near village Shivpuri.

Chandna Rao—This stream rises in a hill near village Kasmoli in tahsil Devaprayag and runs in a south-westerly direction as far as village Dawar. It then runs along the district boundary to join the Ganga on the left to the south of Muni-ki-Reti.

Song—This stream is a tributary of the Ganga. It rises in the southern slope of the Sirkanda mountain in tahsil Tehri and runs southward through that tahsil to village Bamirdi. It then runs westward past Rangar-gaon (on the right) to village Ghursalgaon and, then, running along the western boundary of the district which it separates from district Dehra Dun, it is joined by the Ringalgarh Gad on the right near village Sondana. Flowing on, it takes a north-westerly course and separates the two districts as far as Sripur where it is joined by the Bandal and leaves the district to enter district Dehra Dun.

Bandal—Rising in a hill near Dhanolti in tahsil Tehri, this stream runs south-westward, separating the district from district Dehra Dun, to join the Song near village Sripur.

Yamuna—Rising from Jamnotri (Yamunotri) in district Uttar Kashi, the Yamuna touches the western boundary of the district near village

Bhutgaon and runs southward, separating the district from district Dehra Dun. It is joined by the Bhadri Gad and the Aglar (the chief tributaries of the Yamuna in the district) on the left near the villages of Parogi and Bhedan respectively. It then takes a westerly course along the district boundary for about 8 km. and enters the Dun valley just near Kundi Kalsi in district Dehra Dun.

Bhadri Gad—Rising in the northern slope of the Nag Tibba, this stream runs westward through tahsil Tehri to the village of Koti. It then flows south-westward and, after receiving a number of streams from either side, reaches the village of Nakot where it turns towards the west and runs past Chandangaon and Chalanu to join the Yamuna river near village Parogi.

Aglar—This stream is a tributary of the Yamuna river and rises in the north-western slope of the Sirkanda mountain in tahsil Tehri and runs north-westward to the village of Bhaim. It then takes a westerly course and, after receiving the Pali Gad (which rises in the Nag Tibba mountain) from the north and the Belgar (which rises in the northern slope of the Deo ka Tibba) from the south, assumes a considerable size near village Kapholta in tahsil Tehri. Flowing on in the same direction, it runs past Mawan on the left and Thapla on the right to join the Yamuna near the village of Bhadan.

Lakes—There are a number of lakes at elevations between 4200 m. and 4600 m. These are ponds in depressions situated amidst picturesque surroundings. About 10 km. north of Thati Kaŕur (Budha Kedar) in tahsil Pratapnagar, there is a beautiful lake known as the Masar Tal. It is noted for its beautiful sorroundings in the midst of huge fir and spruce trees. It has a grey variety of fish and is approachable by an ordinary bridle path. The Baghani lake lies on the left bank of the Lastar river in the Ranshila Dhar in tahsil Devaprayag.

Shastru Tal—Also known as Sahastra Tal—is located where parganas Chilla and Bhilung meet at a height of 4,267 m. to 4,572 m. As the very name implies it consists of a cluster of lakes, (*sahastra* meaning one thousand, and loosely applied to denote largeness of number). The water of these lakes is deep blue and trout is found in these in abundance. These lakes may be reached only in summer as the approaches to them get snow-bound during winters.

Geology

Tehri Garhwal district can reasonably be divided into 3 distinct geological zones : The Great Himalaya Range, the Narrow Window Zone along the Bhagirathi valley and the Southern Synclinal Zone of Mussoorie-Sirkanda-Banali Range.

The Great Himalaya Range also called the Himadri Range—covers the northern part of the district and comprises of extremely rugged topography with very youthful aspects and is made up of crystalline rocks.

The Narrow Window Zone lies along the Bhagirathi valley in the central part of the district and consists of deeply dissected terrain of rather mature topography and exposed older sedimentary rocks.

The Southern Synclinal Zone is made up of a great thickness of sedimentary rocks of younger ages.

Stratigraphy

The stratigraphic picture of the northern part of the district is quite different from that of the southern. The various rock-groups found in each part are arranged, below in order of increasing age from top to bottom.

Northern Tehri Garhwal

Rock group		Age
Garhwal Series	(Quartzite group	Devonian
	Calc group	Somewhere between Algonkian and Early Ordovician
Vaikrita Series	..	Archaean

Southern Tehri Garhwal

Rock group		Age
Subathu Series	.. ..	Eocene
Tal Series	.. ..	Jurassic to Lower Cretaceous
Krol Series	.. ..	Permian to Triassic
Blaini Series	.. ..	Upper Carboniferous
Nagthat Series	.. ..	Devonian
Simla Slates	.. ..	Algonkian
Chandpur Series	.. ..	Precambrian

The lithology and distribution of the different rock groups are described in the following pages.

Great Himalaya Range

Vaikrita Series—This great group, consisting of crystalline metamorphic and granitic intrusive rocks, covers a greater part of the Pratapnagar and northern Devaprayag tahsils. The Bhillangana river cuts across this group right through the middle of the district. Forming a big promontory, the thrust-demarcated group is divisible into the following formations): (1) The lower part consists of garnetiferous biotite-gneisses and mica schists with granulites and Kyanite and staurolite-bearing schists

(2) Next in succession are quartzites with subordinate mica schists. (3) Then follows a very thick sequence of biotite-paragneisses and schists interbedded with calc granulites (diopside–, actinolite–, scapolite–granulite) which are extensively intruded by dykes of tourmaline-bearing granitic rocks. (4) Finally, the paragneisses and calc granulites are cut by the great sill of granodiorite of batholithic dimension, streching along the Bandarpanch-Chaukhamba-Badrinath tract. Kedarnath peak lies a little to the north of the granitic belt.

The Vaikrita series belongs to the Archaean times and is, therefore, quite older than 700 million years. However, the Badrinath granodiorites were intruded during mid-Tertiary times, that is, between 25 and 12 million years ago.

Garhwal Series—This group, recognized and first described by J. B. Auden as the Barahat Series, really comprises of two groups, the lower calc group and the upper quartzite group. The two groups are involved in such a complex folding that it is not easy to work out their stratigraphic positions. The calc group consists of blue limestones, grey siliceous dolomites and slates and finer-grained protoquartzites. This is doubtless the north-western continuation of the Tejam-Pipalkoti calc group. The upper group is made up of quartzites, sericite-quartzites and interbedded chlorite schists, amphibolites and metabasalts of volcanic origin. The quartzites are coarse-grained, purple or white in colour, show current-bedding and are purely quartzose in composition. This group is the north-western continuation of the Chamoli Quartzites.

The Garhwal Series covers the belt that includes the Lambgaon, Ghansali and Jakholi in the tahsils of Pratapnagar and Devaprayag. The calc group strongly resembles the Deoban Limestones whose stratigraphic position lies somewhere between Algonkian (700 to 600 million years) and Early Ordovician (500 million years). The quartzite group has been compared with the Nagthat Series of probable Devonian period (400 to 350 million years).

Narrow Window Zone

Simla Slates—The Simla Slates consist of a considerable thickness of purple, olive-green and grey slates interbedded rhythmically with massive-bedded greywackes showing spectacular ball-and-pillow structures in addition to many turbid features such as graded-bedding, flute casts and load casts. These rocks thus constitute a Flysch facies. Simla slates are exposed in four windows: the roughly oval-shaped windows of Pharat and Bidhalna in southern Tehri on the south-west flank of the mountain range, close to the foothills, and the elongate triangular windows of the Yamuna valley in the west and Bhagirathi-Nayar valleys in the east. In both the cases, the pointed apex of the triangle is oriented to the south-east. The western window is the extension of the Chakrata window and

stretches through the tract between Nairu and Kuwa in the Yamuna valley and terminates around Chham (Chama) in the Bhagirathi valley. The eastern window peons out in the Chama Khal tract and extends along the lower reaches of the Bhagirathi valley and then runs across the Alaknanda around Devaprayag.

The Simla Slates are believed to be of Algonkian period (between 700 and 600 million years).

Subathu Series—The only series of rocks containing reliable and decisive fossils of foraminifera, the Subathus are exposed as marginal fringes and cappings on the anticlinally folded Simla Slates in the windows of Pharat and Bidhalna and along the southern border of the Chakrata-Nairu window. The series consists of olive-green splintery shales, greenish-grey grey wackes and inter-bedded shell-limestones. The shells are mostly of broken lamellibranchs or oysters.

The Subathu Series is assigned to the Eocene period (60 to 40 million years) and is correlated with the Laki Series of Pakistan.

Southern Synclinal Zone

Chandpur Series—Excluding the Mussoorie–Sirkanda–Banali belt, where younger sedimentary rocks are exposed, and also the windows in which Simla Slates have been uncovered, the major part of the tahsils of Tehri and Southern Devaprayag are covered by mildly metamorphic rocks of the Chandpur Series and the quartzites of the succeeding Nagthat Series. The Chandpur group consists of (1) an intimately banded association of greenish quartzites and schistose phyllites (2) abundant green beds-chlorite-phyllites and schists and amygdaloidal lavas and tuffs. In the south-western part, that is, to the north-east of the Siwalik hills, the rocks are much less metamorphosed, banded green slates and ash beds, but in the Bhagirathi valley area the rocks become schistose. The highly metamorphosed, crystalline Chandpur rocks, strongly recalling Daling Series of the Sikkim-Bhutan Himalaya, occur again at the very top of the succession of rocks over the Tal Series, as very small thrust-sheets at Banali and Satengal in the southern mountain range which includes Mussoorie.

The Chandpur series is of Precambrian period, and is thus older than 700 million years.

Nagthat Series—The Chandpur Series is succeeded above by a great group of quartzites called the Nagthat Series. An unconformity separates the two series. The characteristic rocks of this group are orthoquartzites and arkosic quartzites, conglomerates and subordinate purple and green slates and phyllites. The quartzites are coarse-grained, white, yellowish and purple in colour and characterized by cross-bedding and

ripple marks. The Nagthats are exposed in two belts along the two limbs of the great Mussoorie syncline. The rocks of the south-western flank, overlooking the Dun valley below, show low grade of metamorphism. However, the same rock types are quite metamorphosed on the north-eastern limb along the Aglar valley—Chama Khal tract. The chief rocks here are schistose phyllites and sericite-quartzites. The thickness of this northern group is greater than that of the southern.

The Nagthat Series is believed to be of Devonian period, 400 to 350 million years old.

Blaini Series—Where fully developed, the series, which unconformably overlies the Nagthat series, consists of the following formations: (1) Lower Boulder Beds, (2) Blaini Slates, resting upon the boulder beds, (3) Upper Boulder Beds, and (4) Infra-Krol Shales and pink limestone at the top. The Boulder Beds consists of dark-grey and brown quartz-conglomerates of glacial origin. The boulders, cobbles and pebbles, derived from the denudation of Simla Slates, are set in the sandy or shaly matrix and bear marks of glacial abrasion and scratching. Separating the two conglomerate horizons is a formation of black banded and bleached (cream tints in black) slates and greyish quartzites. The uppermost formation, the Infra-Krols, consists of dark carbonaceous shales inter-bedded with buff-weathering beds of impure quartzites and associated with characteristic pink limestone. The shales and dirty sandstones show varve-like banding typical of glacial sediments.

The boulder beds and limestones are well exposed west of Lachhman Jhula and at the confluence of the Huinl and Ganga rivers and in the Aglar valley in the west. The group is exposed all around the Krol limestones in the southern mountain range of the district, stretching through the Landour, Sirkanda and Banali peaks.

The Blaini Series has been correlated with the Talchir Series of the Peninsular India and is regarded as Upper Carboniferous (305 to 270 million years) in age.

Krol Series—Forming what is known as the Mussoorie Syncline in the southern part of the district, the Krol group may be divided into the following 3 formations: (1) The Lower Krol formation, which overlies the Infra-Khols of the Blaini Series, consists of alternating thin-bedded limestone and calcareous shales, the latter being predominant. (2) The Middle Krol formation is made up of characteristic soft purple shales with thin layers of dolomitic and siliceous limestones. (3) The Upper Krol formation comprises (a) massive, partially dolomitized limestones at the bottom, (b) cherty limestone alternating with shales and containing pockets of gypsum in the limestone, and (c) a great thickness of thick-bedded grey and creamy-white limestones at the top. The Krols, and the overlying Tals, extend from north-west of Mussoorie

through brows of the Landour-Sirkanda-Banali mountain range to Phakot in the Huinl valley in the south. Another synclinally disposed outcrop of the Krols begins from near Narendra Nagar and stretches across the Ganga river to the Garhwal district to the south-east.

The Krol Series has been assigned to the period from Permian to Triassic (270 to 180 million years).

Tal Series—Succeeding the Krol Series, this group occurs along the tract between Landour and the Huinl valley. This topmost group of the Mussoorie syncline consists of two formations: The Lower Tal formation is constituted of dark carbonaceous shales and greywackes with subordinate micaceous shales and current-bedded sandstone. This horizon contains lenses and layers of phosphatic minerals, including nodules. The upper Tal formation comprises mainly of quartzites, often pebbly, and dark limestones and calcareous sandstones at the top of the sequence. The quartzites are generally arkosic and vary in colour from white to pale green. Current-bedding is a universal feature of the quartzites.

The Lower Tal shales near Surkhet have yielded fossils of crustacean and the limestones at the top of the Upper Tal contain the remains of lamellibranchs, brachiopods and corals. These fossils suggest Jurassic to Lower Cretaceous age of the Tal Series. In terms of absolute years, they are 180 to 100 million years old.

Structure and Tectonics

The various rocks of the southern part of the Tehri district may be included into three tectonic units, each separated from the other by thrust planes of great magnitude. These are arranged as shown below:

Garhwal Nappe	.. ..	Chandpur Series (of Banal)
		Garhwal Thrust
		Tal Series
		Krol Series
Krol Nappe	.. ..	Blaini Series
		Nagthat Series
		Chandpur Series
		Krol Thrust
		Subathu Series
Autochthon	.. ..	Simla Slates

In the northern part of the district, the pattern is quite different:

Vaikrita Series of North — Chandpur Series to South
—Main Central Thrust — Kumarara-Pathari Gad Th.
Garhwal Series

The south-western half of the district is a great syncline constituted of 6,000 metre thick pile of sedimentary rocks of the Chandpur, Nagthat, Blaini, Krol and Tal series. This is called the Mussoorie syncline. As a

matter of fact it is a synclinorium, bound in the south-west by the Krol Thrust and in the north-east by the Kumarara–Khand–Chamsari–Pathari Gad Thrust. The Krol Thrust follows the foothills closely and separates the overlying Chandpurs from the Siwalik sandstones below. The northern thrust of the Bhagirathi valley and southern Uttar Kashi similarly separates the south-west-dipping Chandpurs from the sedimentaries of the Garhwal Series. This thrust passes through Malla Kumarara, through a little to the North of Tehri township and crosses the Alaknanda some 6 km. ENE of Shrinagar in district Garhwal. Between these two thrust planes the great sedimentary pile is compressed into the syncline of Mussoorie-Sirkanda-Banali range in the south, the tight, overturned anticline of the tract south of the Bhagirathi and the syncline of the Bhagirathi valley. This synclinorium shows evidences of uprooting from its original site and southward displacement of considerable distance. Evidently, this is a nappe and J. B. Auden called it the Krol Nappe. Within the expanses of this far-travelled sheet there are four windows, or erosional openings which have revealed the older Simla Slates with Subathu cappings beneath the very old overthrust masses of Chandpur rocks. The oval shaped windows of Pharat and Bidhalna are close to the Siwalik hills in the south and the Chakrata–Yamuna and Bhagirathi–Nayar windows lie in the central part of the district. These windows show that the Simla slates are very complexly folded and faulted.

There is one point which calls for further closer investigation. The Chandpur rocks of Tehri Garhwal show lower grade of metamorphism as compared to the higher-grade crystalline metamorphics of the Dudatoli belt, which have also been correlated with the Chandpurs. Possibly, a thrust plane separates the two suites of rocks. As Augusto Gansser has shown in his map of 1964, the Dudatoli crystallines thin out westwards and terminate a little south-west of the town of Tehri and a thrust plane separates the Chandpurs of the district from the overlying Dudatoli crystallines. This is the Garhwal Thrust of Auden, and the overthrust crystalline rocks constitute what has been called the Garhwal Nappe. The small sheets of crystalline rocks atop the Mussoorie mountain range at Banali and Satengal represent the frontal detached pieces of this Garhwal Nappe and are, thus, klippen.

The Great Himalaya Range of the northern part of the district is made up of the crystalline rocks, which are separated from the underlying Garhwal Series by an extensive and profound thrust called the Main Central Thrust. This thrust is traceable from near Sainj, between Uttar Kashi township and Bhatwari in the Bhagirathi valley, along the Bal Ganga–Nailchami Gad near Ghansali in the Bhillangana valley and then swerves in the north-eastern direction towards Guptakashi–Okhimath area in the Mandakini valley. The crystalline rocks of the Great Himalaya show complex secondary folding as seen near Pirhi

hill. A window which revealed less metamorphosed rocks under highly crystalline rocks has been reported to occur near Ghuttu in the Bhillangana valley.

In between the Main Central Thrust and the thrust running parallel and a little to the north of the Bhagirathi, the sedimentaries of the Garhwal Series are severely compressed into complex folds, some of which are overturned and some with faulted limbs.

Earthquakes

Like other Himalayan districts of Uttar Pradesh, the district lies in Seismic Zone III of fairly heavy damage. The intensity of shocks is of the order of 5.3 to 6.9 on Richter Scale.

Economic Mineral Deposits

The district is blessed with some mineral deposits of commercial value. The uppermost member of the Upper Krol formation in the Tehri-Mussoorie border area, especially north of the Song river, is rich with uniformly high-grade crystalline dolomite. Dolomite is used as refractory bricks in steel and glass industries, as a filler in the making of paints, varnishes, ceramics, in tanneries and as soil conditioners and fillers with fertilizers in agriculture. Reserves of dolomite of the district are said to be inexhaustible.

The lowermost member of the Upper Krol formation is made up of good-quality limestone, which is used for the making of lime and cement. Its other uses are in paper, textile, rubber and sugar industries as well as in the manufacture of fertilizers. The deposits of limestone are mined in the Song valley, around Kinwani.

Associated with the dolomites and red shales of the middle Krol formation are pockets and lentils of gypsum. The deposits at Kinwani and Chipaldi have recently been taken for exploitation. The mineral is mainly used for the making of Plaster of Paris. Its other uses are in the fertilizer and cement industries as an essential ingredient and in the modern agriculture as surface plaster for conserving soil-moisture and for aiding nitrogen absorption. Gypsum is also used as a filler in the making of paint, rubber and textiles.

Of the most important discoveries in recent years is the finding of rock phosphates in the Lower Tals. The tricalcium phosphate occurs in the form of nodules and bands. In addition, promising deposits of marble occur at Dubra, the Song river area, and at Nagani. The marble is of good-quality. Pockets of galena have been reported from Pindki and barytes from the Krol limestones.

CLIMATE

Fairly long and severe winter season is the chief climatic feature of the district but the climate in different parts, varies according to the

change in the altitude and aspect. As most of the district is situated on the southern slopes of the outer Himalayas. monsoon currents penetrate through the valleys and heavy rainfall occurs in the period from June to September. In the valleys, particularly in the south, tropical heat may be experienced during the premonsoon period—April, May and the first half of June.

Rainfall—Short period records of precipitation in the district are available for seven stations only, out of which only two stations, viz., Tehri and Mukhem have records for unbroken periods. Details of rainfall at these stations are given in table IV (i) of the Appendix, which gives also the heaviest rainfall in 24 hours at individual stations, with dates of their occurrence. The region of the lowest rainfall with annual precipitation of under 100 cm. lies along the Bhagirathi valley which has an elevation as low as 450 m. at Devaprayag in the south, increasing to 900 m. near the northern boundary of the district. On both sides of the valley, rainfall increases rapidly up the steep slopes, reaching about 300 cm. in the north-eastern region (with an elevation of the order of 3,000 m.) and over 20 cm. in the westernmost parts of the district (elevation about 2,200 m.). Due to the nature of the terrain, rainfall is variable and depends upon elevation and exposure to the prevailing winds. Over 70 per cent of rain occurs during the monsoon months, June to September, July being the rainiest, which alone receives 25 to 35 per cent of the total precipitation. There are two rainfall minima, one in April and the other in November. The precipitation during December and the winter period, January to March, is of the order of 10 to 20 per cent of the annual total. Rainfall gradually increases thereafter, reaching its peak in July and then decreasing rapidly after the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon in September. During monsoon, spurts of heavy rain may occur in the hills, causing floods in the rivers. The winter precipitation is in association with the passage of western disturbances and is often in the form of snowfall particularly at higher elevations. The precipitation during the premonsoon months, which is less than 3 per cent in the southern parts and about 5 per cent in the northern parts of the district, is mostly associated with thunderstorms. There is no appreciable variation of rainfall from year to year. During the short period of about 10 years for which rainfall records are available, only Tehri and Kirti Nagar recorded rainfall of less than 80 per cent of the annual average, while no station recorded two consecutive years of such low rainfall.

The average number of rainy days (i.e., having rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more on each day) varies, from 56.1 at Devaprayag to 108.5 at Ghuttu. The lowest number of rainy days in the district has been 48 at Devaprayag in 1962 and the highest about 120 at Ghuttu in the same year.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 24.5 cm. at Bhuttu on 15th July 1962. Considering rainfall data for unbroken periods which are available for Mukhem and Tehri only, the maximum annual precipitation was 123 per cent of the annual normal rainfall at Mukhem in 1961 and 117 per cent at Tehri in 1964, while the minimum annual precipitation at these stations was, respectively, 76 per cent (in 1965) and 70 per cent (in 1960) of the annual normal rainfall.

Temperature—There are two meteorological observatories of recent origin in the district recording temperature and other weather conditions. Table IV (ii) in the Appendix gives details of temperature at these stations. The description that follows is based on the short period data for these stations and the data of stations in the neighbouring districts experiencing similar type of climate. The district being hilly with deep valleys, temperature also varies considerably with elevation and from place to place. As the insolation at high altitudes is intense, temperatures are much higher in the open than in shade in summer while, in the valleys, stagnant pool of cold air causes large diurnal variation of temperature. After January, temperatures begin to rise, the increase being particularly rapid till March. June is the warmest month with mean maximum temperature of about 37°C in valleys with elevation less than 1,000 m., 26°C. at 2,000 m. and still lower temperatures at stations at higher altitudes. With the onset of the monsoon towards the end of June or early July, day temperatures fall by about 3°C. to 5°C. but after the withdrawal of monsoon in September, the decrease in day and night temperatures becomes more rapid till January which is the coldest month with mean daily maximum and minimum temperatures respectively of about 19°C. and 4.5°C. in valleys, with elevation less than 1,000 m., 12°C. and 3.3°C. at 2,000 m. and still lower at higher elevations. During the cold season, cold waves in the wake of western disturbances cause the temperature to fall appreciably. There may also be considerable accumulation of snow in the valleys.

Humidity—The driest part of the year is the summer (April and May) when the relative humidity towards afternoons may be less than 25 per cent in the valleys and 35—40 per cent over highlands. Humidity increase rapidly with the onset of the monsoon. Relative humidity generally decreases towards afternoon appreciably in the valleys and only slightly at high elevations due to the rise of moisture from below with the advance of the day. Relative humidities for the two observatory stations are given in Table IV (ii) of the Appendix.

Clouds—In the monsoon months, from July to September, and also, for short spells, during the winter months when the region is affected by passing western disturbances skies are generally heavily clouded. Cloudiness is the least in May and November.

Winds—Winds are mostly light. In the wake of the western disturbances, however, and also in association with thunderstorms, they may be quite strong. Strong katabatic winds may also be experienced during night as local effects produced by the nature of the terrain. Details of the mean wind speed (in km. per hour) in respect of Tehri for which alone data are available are given below :

Month	Speed in kilometres per hour	Month	Speed in kilometres per hour
January	1·4	July	3·3
February	2·1	August	2·8
March	2·6	September	2·4
April	3·2	October	2·2
May	3·9	November	1·4
June	4 5	December	1 0 9
Annual			2·6

Special Weather Phenomena—Thunderstorms occur throughout the year, except in November and December which are practically free from thunder activity which is most marked from May to July, about 50 per cent of the thunderstorms occuring during that period. Premonsoon thunderstorms may be accompanied by hail. Duststorms are rare and occur, if at all, in the valleys in summer. Hill fog is common during monsoon months. Fog may also occur in association with western disturbances. In the valleys morning fog may be frequent in winter. The frequencies of special weather phenomena at the two observatory stations are given below :

Special Weather Phenomena (Mukhem)

Month	Mean number of days with				
	Thunder	Hail	Duststorm	Squall	Fog
January	1·2	0·4	0·2	0·0	1·7
February	2·3	0·2	0·0	0·0	0·7
March	3·8	0·9	0·1	0·0	0·7
April	3·9	0·8	0·2	0·1	0·3
May	6·9	0·6	0·2	0·1	0·7
June	8·4	0·3	0·0	0·0	1·5
July	5·4	0·7	0·0	0·0	7·9
August	2·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	6·1
September	4·3	0·4	0·1	0·0	4·3
October	2·6	0·4	0·0	0·0	2·2
November	0·7	0·4	0·0	0·0	0·2
December	0·6	0·0	0·1	0·0	0·6
Annual ..	42·1	5·1	0·9	0·2	26·9

Special Weather Phenomena (Tehri)

Month	Mean number of days with				
	Thunder	Hail	Dust-storm	Squall	Fog
January	1·0	0·0	0·5	0·0	4·6
February	1·3	0·0	0·1	0·0	1·3
March	3·4	0·1	0·3	0·1	0·9
April	2·7	0·5	1·0	0·0	0·6
May	6·7	0·1	1·1	0·0	0·3
June	8·0	0·0	0·7	0·6	0·1
July	3·9	0.0	0·0	0·0	0·0
August	1·1	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·4
September	3·7	0·0	0·1	0·0	0·9
October	0·9	0·1	0·0	0·0	0·3
November	0·7	0·0	0.0	0·0	0·9
December	0·7	0·1	0·0	0·0	3·6
Annual	34·1	1·2	3·9	0·7	13·9

FLORA

The flora of the district includes the vast range found in the Himalayas, varying from the sub-tropical species which grow in the outer ranges of low hills to the rich Alpine flowers in the north. Still, it can reasonably be termed to consist of mostly such trees as grow in its forests because large tracts of the land-surface in the district constitute forests. The *chir*, the oaks, the conifers, the sal, the deodar, the *haldu*, the yew, the cypress, the rhododendron, the birch, the horse-chestnut, the cycamore the willow, the alder and various types of fruit trees like the cornel, the figs, the *kaiphal*, the mulberry, the *kingora*, the raspberry, the blackberry, currants, medlars, gooseberries, hazel-nuts, apples, pears, cherries, apricots, plums, peaches, oranges, limes, bananas, pomegranates and walnuts are found in the district besides a variety of herbal plants bushes, scrubs and grass.

Forests in the district are very valuable. From 1865 to 1885, these had been leased out by the rulers of the erstwhile state of Tehri Garhwal to the British government but, in 1885, this lease was renewed only with regard to an area of 64.5 sq. miles (16,705 hectares) of deodar forest in the Tons and Pabar valleys (now in district Uttar Kashi) and the Shivpuri forest of sal and other species in the south of this district. The lease was for Rs 12,000 annually but, after two years, the lease regarding Shivpuri was given up. A fresh lease was executed in 1904, making

over the management of deodar forests to the forest department of the British government which paid to the erstwhile state 80 per cent of the net profits. In he meantime, a further area of 72.1 sq. miles (18,674 hectares) was leased out by the erstwhile state to the British government on the same terms to prevent denudation of the hill sides bearing *chir* forests. The remainder of the forests were managed by the erstwhile state directly with the help of a forest officer lent to the state by the British government in 1896. At the time, state forests occupied an area of about 1,100 sq. miles (2,849 sq. km.) and were divided into four ranges. The Rawain range in the Yamuna and Tons valleys mostly had *chir* (*Pinus longifolia*); the Taknor range in the Bhagirathi valley had primarily deodar in the north and *chir*, oak, spruce and silver fir in the rest; the Bhillangana range between the Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda rivers had mostly pine, fir and oak, and the Shivpuri range possessed mostly sal, *chir* and mixed forests. Altogether, pines and firs occupied more than three-fourths of the total area, the rest being mostly deodar and sal forest, though, in the north, large amount of box-wood existed. The average annual income to the then Tehri Garhwal state from the forests in the early years of the twentieth century was only about Rs 83,000 and the expenditure on forests amounted to about Rs 47,000. Prior to 1896, there was no proper control, no fire protection and no attempt at reproduction while heavy fellings were conducted by contractors without supervision.

The efforts to conserve forests started in 1896 and yielded substantial results in due course but the local people played havoc with the forests near *abadi* sites. Indiscriminate felling of trees in such areas led to shortage of even fuelwood in the towns and villages in the district.

Proposals for the removal of irksome restrictions on villagers' forest requirements were embodied in the Tehri state government's circular no. 11, dated March 31, 1905. This permitted the villagers to fell all kinds of trees in their cultivation, to extend cultivation up to 20 chains (402 m.) in treeless waste land, to burn forests not felled recently and to fell trees other than deodar, *chir, kail, thuner, raitum, shisham,* sal, *sain* and *papri* which were classed as reserved species. Forest settlement of the Shivpuri range and deodar patches of Jaunpur were carried out in 1905 and 1906, respectively. The fellings were reduced to 2,000 *chir* per annum for revenue purposes.

Fresh demarcation and settlement of more than half of the forest land was undertaken from July 1907 onwards. The forests were divided into three groups, the reserved or class I forests, the protected or class II forests and the *soyam* or civil forests. The use of the forest produce by the villagers was limited in the reserved and protected forests but the civil forests were entirely left for their use unless there

was a surplus forest product which was disposed of by the forest department. In course of time, the protected forests were merged either with reserved forest or with the *soyam* forests. In the land revenue settlement of 1924, the reserved forests were completely demarcated. In order to exclude lands assessed to land revenue which had by mistake been demarcated as forest lands, a second revision was done in 1927–29. All these forest settlements were superseded in 1930 by the state government circular no. 21. According to this circular, the record of forest concessions for the Yamuna Division was completed in 1929–31 and for the rest of the area in 1936-37. In July, 1949 an order was passed, directing the transfer of the *soyam* forest to the forest department. The transfer was merely on paper as it neither demarcated the *soyam* forest nor was formal possession of such forest taken on the spot. After the merger of the Tehri Garhwal state on August 1, 1949, in the Indian Union and the coming into existence of the present Tehri Garhwal District, the *soyam* forests continued with the forest department but were put under the control of the deputy commissioner. In 1960, a large area under forests was separated from the district after the creation of the Uttar Kashi district.

At present, the forest area of the district comprises the whole of the Tehri forest division, parts of the Mukhem and Dharasu ranges of the Uttar Kashi forest division and the Jaunpur and Mussoorie ranges of the Yamuna forest division. The area of the forests under the forest department is about 2,69,442 hectares of which 2,43,815 hectares lie in the Tehri forest division, 5,586 hectares in the Uttar Kashi forest division and 20,041 hectares in the Yamuna forest division. The civil or *soyam* forests, form thin strips around *abadi* sites and their exact area is not known. The flora of the district may be divided into six main botanical divisions: (1) the tropical dry deciduous forests, (2) the sal forests (3) the *chir* forests, (4) the oak forests, (5) the deodar, fir and spruce forests, and (6) the Alpine pastures.

Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests—These forests occur mostly near the confluence of the Yamuna and the Aglar and on foothills and extend up to the altitudes of 1,200 m. The predominant species are *kuri, kemela, jhingan,* and *mandar.* Their chief undergrowths are the *dhaula, binda, basingha* and the *gandela.*

Sal Forests—These forests exist up to the altitude of 1,066 m., their best growths being found in the valley of the Chandan Rao in tahsil Devaprayag and in the valley of the Bandal in tahsil Tehri. Small tracts of the sal forests may also be seen in the neighbourhood of Muniki-Reti and Shivpuri in tahsil Devaprayag. Sal is highly gregarious. The upper limit of Sal is regulated to a great extent by frost. In excessively dry localities, it gives way to more xerophytic species. It does not extend beyond the outer ranges of the Himalayas even though the main

river valleys in the northern part of the district are much below the maximum elavation at which this species may grow. It is commonly found up to the altitude of 762 m. on the southern aspects and 1,066 m. on the northern. The other chief trees found in these forests are *sain, bakli, jhingan, haldu, kanju, sandhan, rohini* and *amaltas.* The *bakli* is utilised for preparing charcoal. The wood of the *sandhan* is used for making agricultural implements. The *khair* trees are also met with in these forests.

Grass abounds in sal forests, wherever sufficient light reaches the ground. In most sal forest, sal comprises 80 to 90 per cent of the dominant tree species and tends to form a dense tree canopy. The sal forests had originally contained a much higher percentage of miscellaneous species. The forest administration of the government of Uttar Pradesh annually spends large sums on eliminating comparatively worthless undergrowth and tree species and, the balance of nature is now heavily weighted in favour of sal and a few other valuable species.

Chir Forests—These forests ordinarily extend on the southern aspects from 1,000 m. to 2,150 m. and on the northern aspects from 900 m. to 2,000 m. throughout the district, growing best in the valleys of the Bhillangana and its tributaries, the Alaknanda and the Mandakini. *Chir* is found on almost all geological formations though, on certain southern slopes with a limestone subsoil, it is unable to exist on account of the dryness of the soil coupled with relatively high temperatures. Nevertheless, chir forests can establish themselves on dry southern aspects where owing to xerophytic conditions and the prevalence of fires, few other trees or shrub species survive. In all *chir* forests, the pine is the dominant tree species present though, on the northern aspects where, there is more moisture in the soil and fires are less destructive, scattered trees of other species also occur. *Chir* forests are seldom very dense. The ground is covered with grass, sometimes dense, whatever the aspect of density or overhead canopy, and there is also a discontinuous undergrowth of shrubs, often so widely scattered that even from a short distance their presence is scarcely noticeable. The open nature of these forests, the absence of other tree species and the poverty of the undergrowth are attributable to fires which have in the past swept annually throughout their length and breadth, to the xerophytic conditions under which they grow and to the fact that the *chir* is often located near tracts under cultivation which leads to its heavy lopping and felling. Towards its lower limit, *chir* gets mixed up with trees of miscellaneous species and, less frequently, with sal forests. Towards its upper limits and in moist and shady ravines, it gradually gives place to *banj.* The *chir* is tapped for resin and its wood is used for building purposes. The seed also yields oil and, when baked, it becomes edible. The dry leaves are utilised for manuring.

Deodar Forests—These forests occur in the northern part of the district in tahsil Pratapnagar in a small area, associated with blue pine and cypress between the altitudes of 1,520 m. and 2,150 m. above sea level. The forests are open and the trees do not attain great height. The timber of deodar is the most highly prized of all the conifers for house-building, granaries, boat-building and railway sleepers.

Fir and Spruce Forests—These forests occur in the northern part of the district between the altitudes of 2,150 m. and 3,050 m. Wherever silver fir occurs, it is the dominant species excepting when it occurs mixed with spruce even where, it is equally important. Parts of such forests are covered with *kharsu* or *moru*.

Oak Forests—The three principal oaks are *banj, moru* and *kharsu,* each occupying more or less a distinct altitudinal zone in the district.

Banj forests are ordinarily found between the heights of 1,800 m., and 2,150 m. above sea-level but they also occupy moist ravines running down into the *chir* zone where they reach levels as low as 1,050 m. A notable feature of the *banj* is its capacity to establish itself on the most unfavourable southern aspects. Those on the northern aspects are comparatively more dense. On southern aspects, the ground is almost invariably clothed with dense grass, while on northern aspects the incidence of grass is much less. The *banj* has a large number of shrubs associated with it.

Moru forests are found at between 1,980 m. and 2,750 m. above sea-level and occupy an intermediate zone between *banj* and *kharsu,* which form extensive forests on the southern aspects, where the *moru* occurs sporadically. It attains its maximum development at elevations between 2,125 m. and 2,450 m. on moist soils and especially where the subsoil is limestone. On account of the density of growth and prevailing moist conditions, fires only penetrate into such forests rarely. Some other species compete with *moru* for dominance, the commonest being the deodar and the ***kharu.***

The *kharsu* forests occupy very extensive tracts at heights between 2,350 m. and 3,500 m. in the northern part of tahsil Pratapnagar (except in the north-east) and in the north-eastern part of tahsil Devaprayag. It is found equally on the northern and southern aspects and has few successful competitors, excepting silver fir and *moru*. The fir, however, occurs only on a small fraction of the area occupied by *kharsu*. *Moru* can compete with success only on northern aspects. At its lower limit, *kharsu* often passes into *banj* forests though, on some northern aspects, it frequently gives place to *moru*, spruce or silver fir. At its upper limit, it passes into forests of birch and silver fir though, on southern slopes, it more frequently passes directly into pastureland without any gradual transition. Typical

khasru forests are dense, the most common associate being *burans* which is almost as aboundant in the *kharsu* forests as it is in the *banj* forests. Shrubs occur in great variety, the commonest being *titmela*.

Alpine Pastures—These are found in the north eastern part of the district in tahsils Pratapnagar and Devaprayag between heights of 3,500 m. and 5,000 m. above sea-level. The land in these parts is covered with snow from October to May but, from June to September, varieties of grasses, herbs, shrubs and flowers grow in the area in abundance. The area provides beautiful and extensive pasture lands for the cattle. On the northern aspects, the birch is also met with and its stems give the famous Bhurjpatra or Bhoj-paper on which books were written before the advent of paper.

FAUNA

The district has been the habitat, from times immemorial, of a large variety of mammals, birds, reptiles and fish. Besides monkeys, longurs, wild-cats, goats, pigs, foxes and dogs, the district is noted for its black bears which are found in the Tehri forest division at lower altitudes and the brown and white bears which are found at higher altitudes. Panthers abound almost throughout the district. The flying squirrel, locally known as *rinoola*, is found largely in the Yomuna forest division. Tigers and elephants are not found in the district except when they enter the district from the Terai forests of Dehra Dun.

Among mammals, the chief carnivora found in the district are *safed bagh* (snow leopard) and *baghera* (leopard). The snow leopard is a rare species and is found near the snow regions (between 3,050 m. and 5,400 m.) in rocky areas. It preys on *thar*, bharal, sheep and goat. The leopard, which is quite common in rocky forests, carries away sheep, goats, mules and sometimes bullocks and cows also. The black bear lives generally in oak forests. It attacks unprovoked and lives on roots, acorn of oaks, grains, fruits and bark trees and rarely kills for flesh. It hibernates in winter though stray cases of mauling of human beings even during winter are known. The brown and white bear is found mostly in the snow regions.

Besides domesticated cattle, other animals generally met with here are bharal (Himalayan blue sheep), Himalayan *thar*, goral, *kastura* (musk-deer) and sambar. The Himalayan blue sheep or bharal is generally found above 4,270 m. in summer and is seldom seen at below 3,000 m. It is shy, quick and speedy and prefers undulating open ground. The Himalayan *thar* prefers moist rugged mountain terrian with little cover and lives under bushes or trees. In summer it is seldom found below 3,000 m. but in winter comes down to as low as 1,800 m. It is dark brown to almost black in colour, the older male being darker. The goral, a goat-like animal with pale brown colour (which turns to almost grey in

summer), haunts the rocky hills in the middle of the forests 1,200 m. and 2,500 m. It usually lives in herds of 2 to 6. The *kastura* (musk-deer) which is famous for its musk pod, frequents steep hills with cover and is usually found above 2,700 m. The female deer has no musk. The musk doe begets 2 fawns at a time and, strangely enough, never keeps them together. Both sexes are devoid of horns. It is becoming extinct as it has been ruthlessly killed in the past for the valuable musk which is of high therapentic value in Ayurveda and is also used in the production of perfumes. The sambar is found up to the height of 2,700 m. and prefers moist dense forests. The young ones are greyish brown in colour but the elder males are much darker. It is locally known as *jarao*. It is said that it drops its horns in May and regrows them in October. The monkey is not seen above the altitude of 2,150 m. but langurs are found up to a higher level. The wild-dog which is found between 1,800 and 2,200 m. (above sea-level), lives chiefly on deer, sambar being its favourite prey. It lives in herds of 5 to 10. The *hathi* or Indian elephant may occasionally be seen in the forests between the Bhagirathi and the Yamuna on straying into the area from adjacent forests of the Dehra Dun district. It causes considerable damage to the cultivation on the border of the forest and destroys the young trees. Cheetal and panda are found largely in herds near Rishikesh forests on the roads to Devaprayag. Kakar—the barking deer—avoids moving about in herds and is usually found in dense forests.

Birds—The district is rich in avifauna and in particular pheasants, partridges, pigeons and doves of various kinds which are the chief game birds. The bird life has a zonal distribution according to the altitude. The pheasants generally seen in the district are *kaleej, koklas, cheers,* and monal. The *kaleej,* a common bird, occurs below 2,600 m. in heavy undergrowth of forests. The *koklas* is found in the fir zone and prefers moist woody forests. The prized monal is generally found at over 2,700 m. in the fir forests and comes down to the deodar forests during the winter. Wild fowls (locally called *kukas*), *harials,* parrots, *chatak, papiha, haldu, nilkanth,* pigeons, partridges are found in varied colours and in abundance. Among partridges, the most common are *kala titar, chakor* and *neora.* The *kala titar* is found at up to 2,130 m. and frequents the grass and shrub patches near cultivated land. The *chakor* loves barren and open hill slopes dotted with bush and grasses and is found between the altitudes of 1,300 m. and 3,600 m. It regularly visits the cultivated fields in search of grain or tender shoots of crop and lives in parties of 6 to 20 but is found in pairs in the summer. The *neora* or hlil partidge which is a dweller of evergreen forests, is found at heights between 1,300 m. and 2,700 m. and prefers broad-leafed forests. The pigeons found in the district are *harial* or wedge-tailed green pigeon, *malyo* or blue rock pigeon and snow pigeon or *safed malyo.* The *hariyal* is seen mostly in *banj*

forests and is found in flocks. It is essentially a fruitarian bird. Its colour is yellowish-green with maroon markings on the middle of the back. The *malyo* has a slaty-grey colour with glistening metallic and purple round neck and the head is washed with steel-blue. It lives gregariously on cliffs and precipices, visits the cultivated fields in large flocks in search of food. The *safed malyo* or snow pigeon is a beautiful pigeon with a white under body, black head, a white cross bar on tail and three white bars on grey wings and completely replaces the blue rock pigeon in the higher altitudes. In habits, it closely resembles the blue rock pigeon. Among doves more numerous are the *ghugti*, or rufous turtle dove and the *fakhta* or ringed dove. The *ghugti*, a large dove, which is found at heights of up to 3,000 m., likes well-wooded forests and is generally seen in pairs or flocks. The *fakhta* is also a large dove which is found at heights up to 2,700 m. and is usually seen in the outhouses of bungalows in the forests. The *shyam karka* (woodcock) is also a game bird which dwells in moist fir forests and is nocturnal in habits. It looks like an outsized snipe and has dirty grey and brown markings. The eyes are placed farther back in the head than in other birds. It migrates to comparatively warmer areas during winter.

The non-game birds generally found in the district are magpies, jays, thrushes, babblers, laughing thrushes and wood-peckers. These are common in the Yamuna division.

The birds found along the water-courses are brown dipper, spotted forktail, white-capped redstart and various wagtails. Murgabis and teels are also found in the Bhillangana.

The other birds found in the district are the paradise fly catcher, the great Himalayan barbet, the grosbeak, the parakeet, the golden oriole, the hedge sparrow, the sunbird, the flower peckers, the *mor* (peacock), robins and the minivet. Out of the preying birds, vultures, falcons, *ookav*, *basa*, *sikra*, *dhania*, *machmar* (fish-killer) are found. Besides, a number of fly catchers, the warblers, bulbuls and the myna, various swifts, skylarks, bush chats, swallows and the buntings are the other birds which add to the rich bird life of the district.

Among the animal wealth of the district noteworthy are the musk-deer (male only) that provides the famous and costly *kasturi* (musk) and the *barad* and white *tutariyal* species of deer that provide soft skin and tail for manufacturing mufflers and caps.

Among the avifauna wealth of the district monal provides costly and beautiful feathers which are put to several commercial uses.

Reptiles—Snakes are not numerous in the district but the cobra and the Russel's viper are commonly found up to 1,800 m. The only hill-snake found above the altitude of 2,400 m. is *Ancistrodon himalayanus*

which attains a length of about 65 cm. and is venomous though its bite is not fatal. Among the non-venomous snakes, the python is most notable. It grows to a length of about 9 m. though specimens over 6 m. are rare. The rat-snake, which attains a length of about 3 m., is also seen in the district. The leech is particularly active during the rains and prefers oak forests. The frog and the toad, both amphibians, are met with throughout the district. Several species of lizards are frequently to be seen on rocks basking in the sun. The blood-sucker lizard, in spite of its name, is perfectly harmless and grows to a length from 25 cm. to 40 cm.

Fish—Fish is found in almost all the rivers, streams and lakes. The Jalkur, the Aglar, the Bhillangana, the Bhagirathi (the Ganga) and the Alaknanda abound in the larger fish. Some of these known as Gidhi, Gyoonri, Ghoonla weigh from 1 to 3 kg. while *bara khasra* weighs about 10 kg.

Game Laws

The game laws obtaining in the district are governed by the Wild Birds And Animals Protection Act (Act VIII of 1912) as Amended by the Wild Birds and Animal Protection (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act, 1934 (Act XIII of 1934) and sub-section L (*a*) (i) of section 26 of the Indian Forest Act (Act XVI of 1927) as amended by the Indian Forest (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act, 1965.

सत्यमेव जयते

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

The district of Tehri Garhwal is one of the four districts of the Garhwal Division and lies in the south-western corner of the region traditionally known as Garhwal. The area covered by the district lies in what has been described in ancient Indian literature as Upagiri or the outer ranges of the mid-Himalayas, which comprise low lying peaks rising contingously with the plains of northern India[1]. Again, as the entire region covered by the district of Garhwal was, according to the *Skanda Purana*, included in the Kedara Khanda, which is one of the 5 divisions into which that Purana divides the central Himalayas, the district forms part of the holiest of the holy lands which is sacred to Kedara (Siva) and has een descried as 'the very heaven on earth.'[2] The region has also been known by several other names, such as Kulindavishaya, Khasamandala, Baoni, Garhdesha, Garhvan, Garhpal or Garhwal,[3] the first two being reminiscent of its association with peoples like the Kunindas (or Kulindas) and Khasas and the rest indicating it to be a country of garhs (forts) which are said to have been 52 in number, hence the name Baoni.

Although the majority of the sacred places of pilgrimage of the Garhwal region are situated in the two northern districts of Chamoli and Uttar Kashi, the district of Tehri Garhwal has also a number of holy places and sacred associations. Besides some holy confluences like the Ganeshprayag (of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana) and Surya-prayag (of the Mandakini and the Lastar), the district has within its boundary the celebrated Devaprayag where the Bhagirathi joins the Alaknanda and whereafter the combined stream becomes known as the Ganga. It is the last and perhaps, the most important of the famous Pancha-prayagas of Garhwal. The *Kedara-khanda* section of the *Skanda Purana* extols Devaprayag as the most adroable of *tirthas* (holy places) and numerous sacred spots associated with or dedicated to Siva, Devi and even Vishnu have been mentioned as being situated in this place or in the

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1. Agrawala, V. S. : 'Geographical Data in Panini's *Ashtadhayayi*,—*Journal of the U. P. Historical Society*, Vol. XVI, part 1, p. 16 ; *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parva Ch. 27, v. 3

2. Atkinson, E. T. : *The Himalayan Districts of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. II, pp. 323-350—section *Kedara-khanda* ; Raturi, H. K. : *Garhwal ka Itihasa*, p. 1 ; Dabral, S. P. : *Uttarakhand ka Itihasa*, pp. 148—151

3. Bahadur, Rai P. R. : *Garhwal, Ancient and Modern*, pp. 13, 188 ; Datar, B. N. : *Himalayan Pilgrimage*, p. 12

area round about. Brahma, the creator, is said to have made his devotions here before commencing the creation of the world. Prithu who lived several generations even before Manu, and Raja Vena and the great sages like Kapila, Vasishtha, Vishwamitra, Rishishringa, Medhatithi and Vyasa, are believed to have practised austerities here while Rama is held to have established the lingam of Vishveshvara Siva at this place.[1] Place names like Muni-ki-Reti and Tapoban indicate that parts of the district were celebrated places of penance for the ancient rishis. The Balakhilla-nadi or the Bal Ganga is said to have derived its name from the semi-divine Balakhilla rishis who practised penance on its banks. Bhagiratha, the king of Ayodhya, who is reputed to have brought down the Ganga to the earth and given it the name Bhagirathi, is said to have practised penance on the Srikantha peak of the Bharti Kantha (also known as Bhagirathi Kantha) mountain in the north of the district, while his descendant, Dasharatha (father of Lord Rama), is said to have performed austerities at the peak known after his name as Dasharathachal (in *patti* Bharpur of tahsil Devaprayag). Rama himself is associated with Devaprayag where he is worshipped under the name of Raghunathji, the principal temple of the place being dedicated to him. His younger brother, Lakshamana, gave his name to the famous hanging bridge, Lachhman Jhula, on the Ganga. Siva is the presiding deity of Kedara Khanda, and hence of this district as well, where numerous shrines dedicated to him are to be found. The Bhillang valley in the district has been identified with the Bhilla-Kshetra of *Skanda Purana* where Siva, in the disguise of a Bhil, played with Parvati, his spouse.[2] Parvati (the daughter of Himachal, that is, the Himalayas personified) herself is a very popular deity of the district. A number of temples have been dedicated to her, the more important ones being the Bhuvaneshvari, Chandrabadni, Kujapuri, Rajrajeshvari and Surkanda or Sureshvari Devi temples.

The earliest known inhabitants of the district seem to have been the Yakshas, the memory of whose association with it still lingers in a number of place names such as Jakh, Jakhi, Jakhani, Jhakhari, Jakheri, Jakholi and Jakhnoli. Similarly, the memory of the serpent-worshipping tribe of the ancient Nagas, who seem to have once held sway over this region, is preserved in the names Nagni, Nagon Gad and Nag Tibba, in the famous Nagraj temple of Mukhem and in the Naga *toks* (shrines) often found located outside the villages. Among the pre-Aryan inhabitants of the region the most important were those usually known by the generic name Asuras and who have been referred to in the Vedic literature as Dasyus or Dasas. The early Aryan settlers of the country had to encounter these deadly foes at every step. The Tritsu kings, Divodasa and Sudasa, are

1. Dabral, *op. cit.*, p. 151 ; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp 342—344

2. *Ibid*, pp. 328-329

said to have waged a prolonged war with Shambara, the Asura chief, who, it is said, had about a hundred strong forts and ruled over the greater part of the Garhwal and Kumaon Himalayan region.[1]

After the fall of the Yakshas, Nagas and Asuras, the people who came were the Kiratas, Kunindas and Khasas who are also mentioned in the Mahabharata as inhabiting the Tarai region in the kingdom of Subahu in the mid-Himalayas and, like other hill tribes, skilled in slinging stones.[2] The Kunindas and Khasas appear to have been branches of the same stock and as Subahu has been described as 'the lord of Kulindavishaya', it seems that in those days the Kuninda branch was more prominent.[3] Later, the Khasas became predominant and even now form the bulk of the population of the district. They are believed to have originally penetrated these parts from the west, probably even before the advent of the Vedic Aryans.[4] In course of time they subjugated the older inhabitants whom they made to live as their serfs or menial servitors. The descendants of the latter are the present-day Doms of the district, who, it is believed, represent the aboriginal stock of this area.[5]

Several of the ancient Kshatriya kings of the plains appear to have tried to extend their sway over these parts, but it was, perhaps, Arjuna, the Pandava, who subjugated this region for the first time and annexed it to the Pandava dominion of his brother Yudhishthira, the king of Indraprastha. The Kunindas and Khasas, probably of these parts, are mentioned among those hill tribes who brought wonderful presents, characteristic of their country to Yudhishthira on the occasion of his Rajasuya Yajna.[6] Later, when the Pandava brothers were forced to go into exile they chose to pass their time in the Garhwal Himalayas where Subahu, the mountain chief and lord of Kulindavishaya, accorded them warm hospitality in his capital, Shripura,[7] which has been identified with Srinagar (the headquarters of the Garhwal district).[8] In the Mahabharata War, too, several princes of the Kuninda royal family died on the battlefield fighting bravely on the side of the Pandavas.[9]

After the Mahabharata War the Pandavas seem to have retained their supremacy over this area and Subahu's descendants probably ruled here for

1. Mac Donell, A. A. and Keith, A. B - *Vedic Index of Names and Subjects*, Vol. I, pp. 198, 320—323, 471—473; Vol. II, p. 355 ; Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalkar, A. D. (Ed.); *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, pp. 249-250, 293-294; Sankratyayana Rahul ; *Kumaon*, p. 31; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 171-172

2. Moti Chandra : 'Geographical and Economic Studies in Mahabharata : 'Upayana parva,—*Journal of the U. P. Historical Society*, Vol. XVII, part I, pp. 32—40

3. *Ibid.* ; Dabral, *op. cit.*, p. 126

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 85, 107, 109

5. *Ibid.*, p. 81 ; Majumdar, D.N. : *Races and Cultures*, p. 39

6. Moti Chandra, *op. cit.*, pp. 32, 36-37, 39; *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parva, ch. 48

7. *Ibid*, Vana-parva, ch. 140, vv. 24—28; Dabral, *op, cit.*, p. 167

8. *Ibid.*, p. 126

9. *Ibid.*, pp. 176-181; *Mahabharata*, Karna-parva, ch.85

some time as tributaries of the kings of Hastinapur. But, as a result of king Janamejaya's fierce drive against the Nagas in his kingdom, some leaders of that race in the plains appear to have taken refuge in this district which for a time probably became one of their strongholds.[1] The people who finally emerged as the dominating element in this area were the Khasas who set up a number of petty chiefships which remained almost independent till the time of the Mauryas (4th–3rd centuries B. C.)[2].

The fact that the Maurya emperor Asoka caused his major rock edicts to be set up at Kalsi (in district Dehra Dun), not far from the western border of this district, indicates that this region may have become a part of the Maurya empire.[3] It was again during the time of Asoka that a Buddhist mission is said to have arrived in these Himalayan regions and to have converted some of the people here.[4]

The name Jaunpur (a western pargana of this district is believed by some to be a corrupt form of Yavanapura and hence an indication that the Yavanas (Greeks) once exercised influence here.[5] There are others, however, who think that the name in its corrupt form represents the ancient Yamun-janapada which stretched along both banks of the upper Yamuna and covered the present Jaunpur and Jaunsar (district Dehra Dun) areas.[6]

In the early centuries of the Christian era the district seems to have formed part of the Kushana empire of northern India, which extended over western and central Himalayas as far as Tibet.[7] About the second quarter of the 3rd century A. D. the empire of the Kushanas disintegrated[8] and with its fall the district seems to have passed out of the hands of the Kushana kings.

An inscription discovered at Jagatgram on the left bank of the Yamuna, opposite Kalsi, and assigned to the 3rd century A.D., speaks of a horse sacrifice performed by the king Shilavarman who is described therein as 'the lord of the mountain'.[9]

It is very likely that the district of Tehri Garhwal had come under the rule of this prince. Another inscription assigned to about the 5th century A. D., discovered at Lakhamandal (in tahsil Chakrata, district Dehra Dun), gives the names of nine generations of a line or rulers,

1. Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 25-26; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 71-72
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 89-90, 94-95, 175
3. *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. I, pp. 27—49; Dabral, *op. cit.*, pp. 182 186, 200 201, 325—344
4. Sastri, K. A. N. (Ed.) : *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, pp. 216-217
5. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 341; Dabral, *op. cit.*, p. 200
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 199-200
7. Majumdar and Pusalkar, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 161
8. *Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 5-4
9. *Indian Archaeology*, 1953-54—*A Review*, pp. 10-11 ; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. IX, plate 59-A ; Dabral, *op. cit.*, pp. 201—203

hitherto unknown, the first of whom is Jayadasa and the last but one Ajeshvara who appeared to have got this epigraph inscribed.[1] Yet another inscription, from the same site and assigned to *circa* 8th century A.D., records the dedication of a Siva temple there by the princess Ishvara for the peace of the soul of her late husband who was a prince of Jalandhara. In the record she gives the genealogy not of her husband but, of her father, Bhaskaravarman, who was the eleventh prince in the line of the Yadava kings of Sainhapura[2] which has been identified by some with the village of Singhpur on the right bank of the Yamuna, about 13 km. south of Kalsi.[3] It is not known what connection, if any, there was between the rulers mentioned in these three epigraphical records but there is little doubt that they ruled over the region round about the places where these records were found and may have had under their sway parts or whole of the adjoining district of Tehri Garhwal. The record inscribed on the copper trident, about 6 m. high, standing in the courtyard of the principal Siva temple at Barahat (Uttar Kashi) and assigned to *circa* 5th century A.D., mentions a king named Shri Guha who was the son and successor of Ganeshwara.[4] These princes may have also held sway over the northern parts of this district.

In 635 A. D., the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang visited a Himalayan kingdom of the name of Brahmapura which was probably also the name of its capital.[5] Opinions differ as regards the location of the city, no one, however, suggesting that it could be situated in what is now the district of Tehri Garhwal.[6] But, as the figure 4,000 *li* (or 1,067 km.) given for its circuit makes it an extensive kingdom presumably covering the greater part of the present Kumaon and Garhwal regions,[7] there is a possibility that parts of this district may have been included in it.

From about the beginning of the 8th to about the close of the 12th century A. D., the powerful Katyuri monarchs of Joshimath (district Chamoli) wielded effective sway over almost the whole of Kumaon and Garhwal, in all probability including this district[8]

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1. Chhabra, B. Ch. : 'Lakhamandal Fragmentary Stone Inscription of the Gupta Period'—*Journal of the U. P. Historical Society*, Vol. XVII, part I, pp. 80—83

2. *Ibid*, p. 93; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. I, pp. 11—15; Dubral, *op. cit.*, pp. 347—351

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 208—212

4. *Ibid*, pp. 363-364

5. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol. I, pp. 329—330; Vol. II, p. 635

6. Gairola, T. D. : '*Early History of Garhwal Rajas*'—*Journal of the U. P. Historical Society*, Vol. XVI, part I, p. 79

7. Cunningham, A. : *The Ancient Geography of India*, p. 300

8. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 122-123; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 471, 473—480, 483—385, 493-494; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 37—45, 60-61 5; Gairola, *op. cit.*, pp. 76—78

Whoever may have been at different times the overlord of this district no one is known to have had his seat of government within its boundaries and, for all practical purposes, it was being governed by its immediate rulers, the local petty chiefs among whom it was divided. This appears to have been the state of affairs for centuries before the commencement of the Christian era and to have continued till about the 15th century A.D. As many as 14 out of the traditionally known 52 *garhs* (fortresses or castles) scattered all over Garhwal and each owned by a *garhpal* who ruled over the surrounding glen, are located in this district. They are Uppu (pargana Udaipur), Kuidi, Kunjani, Bharpur and Ratan (all in pargana Narendra Nagar), Jaut and Biralta (pargana Jaunpur), Bangar, Silgarh and Bhardar (pargana Bhardar), Maleya (pargana Kirti Nagar), Raika (pargana Pratapnagar), Sangela (pargana Bhilung) and Bangarh (pargana Chandrabadni).[1]

From amongst these various petty chieftainships of Garhwal some meagre information is available about two from traditions while about a third one an abundance of traditional account, genealogical lists and even authentic historical evidence are forthcoming. One of the two chieftainships about which our information is very meagre is represented by the Dumaga rajas of Nagpur (district Chamoli) who had their capital at Kandargarh.[2] The second of these chieftainships was that of Bhillang in the Bhagirathi valley with its capital at Barahat (Uttar Kashi district). Towards the close of the 12th or beginning of the 13th century, one Sonpal was the ruler of this kingdom and a local tradition connects him with the ancestry of the rajas of Srinagar.[3]

By far the most important of the Gorhwal dynasties, however, is that which began its career as the petty chiefs of Chandpurgarhi (district Chamoli) but which, in course of time, came to conquer gradually all the different *garhpals* (fort owners), and finally consolidated the whole of Garhwal under its own rule, lasting for more than a thousand years to the present day. The early history of this dynasty is based purely on traditions often conflicting and confusing. Even its genealogical list is in about half a dozen versions no two of which fully agree. However, as a result of several attempts at the reconstruction of its history, the following picture emerges.

It is said that Yogaraja, who was 14th in descent from the Kuru king Parikshit's son, Janamejaya, and ruled at Indraprastha (modern Delhi), was murdered by his minister and that his pregnant queen consequently took refuge in Badarikashrama (Chamoli district) where she gave birth to a son named Rajapala who was crowned by the local rishis as king of that

1. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 323—330
2. Gairola, *op. cit.*, pp. 80-81
3. *Ibid*, pp. 78-80

region. His son was Anangapala whose daughter was married to a descendant of the celebrated king Vikramaditya of Malwa. Her son, Prithviraja, succeeded to the throne of his maternal grandfather, Anangapala, and the line was continued by his progeny.[1] About the 7th or 8th century A.D., the rising power of the Katyuris of Joshimath pushed this comparatively weak Kshatriya principality south-westward where its princes began to rule in what is now pargana Chandpur of the Chamoli district.[2]

Raja Bhanupratapa of this house had no son but a doughter whom he gave in marriage to a Paramara Rajput prince from the plains, who had come to these parts on pilgrimage.[3] This prince is usually named Kanakpal and is said to have hailed from Malwa.[4] He succeeded to the Kingdom of his father-in-law, built the strong fort of Chandpurgarhi and founded the Panwar dynasty of Garhwal. By a more accepted tradition his accession is assigned to Samvat 945 or 888 A.D.[5]

From a comparative study of the different genealogical lists available of this dynasty it appears that the first 20 rajas were no more than minor feudatories of the Katyuri kings of Joshimath, but that by about the 12th century, with the gardual decline of the Katyuri power, the Panwar princes of Chandpurgarhi began to gain strength and finally succeeded in securing for themselves an honoured place among the 52 *garhpals* of what subsequently came to be known as Garhwal.[6]

Vikrampal was the 21st ruler in the line and it was probably his successor, Vichitrapal, or the latter's successor, Hanspal,[7] who lived during the last decades of the 12th century A.D.

Sonpal, the 24th prince of the line, who was probably a son and successor of Hanspal, is said to have shifted his headquarters to some place in the valley of the Bhillangana, which may have been situated somewhere in the north of this district or in what is now the district of Uttar Kashi. It is said that a number of Khasa chiefs owed allegiance to him, that he held sway over almost the whole of western Garhwal, probably including parts of this district, and that he commanded the pilgrims route to Gangotri.[8] One of the genealogical lists assigns Sonpal to 1,209 A.D.[9]

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1. Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 338; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 411-412
2. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 185
3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 445-446; Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 338
4. *Ibid.*, pp 338, 353, 357-358 ; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 184-185; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 445—447.
5. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 124, 338, 353-354, 357-358; Dabral, *op. cit.*, pp. 282, 395: *Zila Tehri-Garhwal ki Bandobast Report* (1965), p. 7
6. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 220-221
7. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 446
8. *Ibid.*
9. *Ibid.*, p. 447

Sonpal is said to have had no son but only a daughter and when Kadilpal, a scion of the Panwar house of Dharanagar (in Malwa), came to the hills on pilgrimage and paid a visit to this raja, the latter was so pleased with the newcomer that he gave him his daughter in marriage and part of pargana Chandpur (district Chamoli) as dowry.[1] This story is remarkably similar, even in its details, to that of Kanakpal, the reputed founder of the dynasty, and one may wonder if it is an accidental repetition of history or whether these are two versions of one and the same tradition. After Sonpal's death, Kadilpal seems to have succeeded to the kingdom and to have made the old capital of Chandpurgarhi his seat of government.

His successor was Kamdeopal and the latter's was Salakhanpal, nothing except names being known about these two as well as the next nine rajas. Anandpal II was the 37th in succession from Kanakpal and the 12th from Ajaipal, who was the 37th in succession from Kanakpal and the 12th from Kadilpal the history of the Panwar dynasty of Garhwal begins to assume a degree of verifiable authenticity. Almost all the available genealogical lists of the dynasty have his name and some of them even begin with him as the first raja of the line.[3]

Ajaipal was called the Chaundyal raja because he is said to have originally hailed from the village of Chaund (about 2.5 km. distant from Chandpurgarhi) where he seems to have been living as a very petty chief like so many others who were then ruling over the different glens of Garhwal. But he was ambitious and his first victim was the Topyal raja (of village Top, about 6.5 km. distant from Chaund). This shows that both these so-called rajas held only a few villages each.[4] Ajaipal thereafter seems to have ousted Anandpal II, the Panwar chief of Chandpurgarhi, who was probably his kinsman since Ajaipal himself was a Panwar Rajput. He is said to have first entered into the service of this raja and then, getting an opportunity, to have expelled his master and usurped the throne.[5] Having established himself firmly at Chandpurgarhi, Ajaipal first reduced the entire pargana of Chandpur to submission and then started extending his dominions by gradually subduing the other chieftains.[6] Some writers give him the credit of being the first to attempt a consolidation of the entire region from the Himalayas in the north to Chandi (near Hardwar) in the south and from the Yamuna in the west to Badhan in the east.[7] How far he succeeded in his attempt cannot be

1. *Ibid.*, p. 446
2. *Ibid.*
3. Gairola, *op. cit.*, pp. 72—75
4. *Ibid.*, p. 76
5. *Ibid.*, pp. 75-76
6. *Ibid.*, p. 76
7. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 187

said, but there is little doubt that he was the first Panwar raja to aim at more than a local supremacy[1] and may have succeeded in bringing a majority of the chiefs of Garhwal region under the sort of confederacy with himself at its head. It is likely that the area now forming the district of Theri Garhwal was also under his sway at that time.

Ajaipal's reign is assigned to various divergent dates such as 1358–70, 1359, 1376, 1389, 1446 and 1500–19 A.D. The first one (1358–1370 A.D.) appears to be more acceptable.[2] He shifted his capital from Chandpurgarhi to Dewalgarh[3] and is also said to have chosen the site which later developed into the capital city of Srinagar. He is also supposed to have laid the foundation of and commenced building a big palace there which was completed by his successors.[4] It is said that he defined the boundaries of his territories, reorganised the parganas and the *pattis*, treated the subordinate chiefs generously and loved his subjects, Ajaipal's *sthapana* (settlement or administration) having become proverbial in Garhwal. The name Garhwal itself, as applied to the region, won popularity since his time.[5]

Ajaipal was succeeded by Kalyanpal and the latter by Sundarpal[6]. It was probably during the time of Sundarpal that the Central Asian invader Timur raided some areas in the outskirts of the Himalayan hills. Having crossed the Ganga, in 1398, Timur is said to have fought several battles near Hardwar and the Chandi hill (opposite Hardwar, across the Ganga) and to have then entered the kingdom of one raja Bahruz, which lay in a valley between the Ganga and the Yamuna. The raja put up a stiff resistance but was defeated and rich booty fell into the hands of the invader, who, however, did not penetrate further into he hills and returned to the plains[7] The name Bahruz, or anything similar to it, is not met with in the genealogy of the Panwar rajas of Garhwal and it is possible that the person here meant was some other powerful local chief of the Tehri-Dun region,[8] who may or may not have been subordinate to the house of Ajaipal.

After Sundarpal came Hansdevapal, Vijaipal and Sahajpal, in succession,[9] some lists, however making Sahajpal precede Vijaipal.[10] A metallic bell in the temple of Raghunathji at Devaprayag bears the name of

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 446, 524
2. *Ibid.*, p. 526; Gairola, *op. cit.*, p. 74
3. Dabral, *op. cit.*, pp. 282-283; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 526; Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 365-366
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 366-367; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 186
5. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 367-368
6. *Ibid.*, p. 369
7. Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J : *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. III, pp. 461, 513; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 190; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 524-526
8. *Ibid.*, pp. 526, 527
9. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 370-371
10. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 447

Sahajpal and appears to have been presented to the temple by this raja.[1] The next raja was Balbhadrapal who is said to have changed the dynastic cognomen from Pal to Sah and is also known by the names of Balbhadra Sah and Bahadur Shah. He was probably the first raja of his line to come into contact with the Muslim rulers of Delhi. He is said to have received a rich robe of honour and the title 'Bahadur Shah' from the then sultan, probably Buhlul Lodi (1451—88 A.D.), as a token of friendship.[2]

He was succedded by Man Sah who is believed to have ruled about 1547 A.D.[3] He is also said to have led raiding expeditions into the plains in the south and into Tibet in the north, to have extended his territory[4] and to have founded a city named Manpur near the site of Srinagar.[5] The poet Bharat alias Jotir Rai wrote a Sanskrit poem, *Manodaya Kavya,* in praise of this raja in the regin of his successor, Sham Sah.[6] De Laet, a French traveller, describing the snow-capped Garhwal as a very fertile kingdom, wrote that its ruler 'Mansa' dined in dishes of gold.[7] An inscription of this raja is also said to exist in a temple at Devaprayag.[8]

Sham Sah, Man Sah's successor, was a ruthless despot and was succeeded by Dularam Sah who issued a grant in 1580 A.D.[9] He was probably the first of the Garhwal rajas to come into direct contact with the Chand rajas of Kumaon when Rudra Chand (1565—1597) invaded his territory. The latter was, however, repulsed without achieving any success.[10] The bitter rivalry, involving almost continuous warfare between Kumaon and Garhwal, thus commenced as a result of the ambitious and aggressive policy of the Chands and continued for about the next two centuries, weakening both these kingdoms.

Mahipat Sah, who succeeded Dularam Sah about 1580 A.D., was the first raja of this dynasty to consolidate effectively his rule over the whole of Garhwal, evidently including this district. His title 'Garva-bhanjan' (annihilator of pride) indicates that he was famous for his prowess against his enemies, the Chands on the east and the Tibetans in the north. He is also the virtual builder of the city of Srinagar to which he finally transferred the seat of his government. During his reign, Lakshmi Chand,

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1. Dabral, S. P.: *Shri Uttarakhand Yatra-darshan*, p. 525
2. Saletore, G. N.—'The Mughals and the Garhwal Rulers, (1624—1664)'—*Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission*, Vol. XXXI, p. 17, footnote 2; Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 371—375
3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 526
4. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 375-376
5. Gairola, *op. cit.*, p. 74
6. *Ibid*
7. Saletore, *op. cit.*, p. 17
8. Dabral, S. P.: *Shri Uttarakhand Yatra-darshan*, p. 524
9. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 447, 523
10. *Ibid.*, pp. 553-554

Rudra Chand's successor on the throne of Almora, invaded Garhwal seven times, but was always repulsed with considerable losses.[1] An inscription of Mahipat Sah, dated 1625 A.D., exists in a temple at Srinagar,[2] which shows that this raja was a contemporary of the Mughal emperors Akbar and Jahangir.

According to the *Ain-i-Akbari*, there was then within the subah of Delhi a sirkar of Kumaon[3], the general description of which, as given in that work, may as well apply to Garhwal as to Kumaon.[4] This sirkar comprised 21 *mahals* (parganas)[5], none of which, however, seems to have been situated in the hills and, therefore, within the territory of the rajas of Garhwal.[6] It is also said that the emperor being pleased with the raja exempted him from payment of tribute and his territories from the assessment of revenue to be paid into the imperial treasury.[7] It, therefore, appears that the rajas of Garhwal enjoyed almost full independence and that they neither paid any tribute to the emperor nor supplied any contingents to him.[8]

From the writings of Firishta, a Muslim chronicler of the seventeenth century, it appears that an impression of the great wealth of the hill states was generally prevalent amongst the Muslims in the plains.[9] So far as this part of the country is concerned, Firishta uses the term 'raja of Kumaon' for its ruler though he seems to mean by it the 'raja of Garhwal' to whom his description befits better.[10] Fr. Antonio Andrado, a Jesuit missionary on his way to Tibet, arrived at Srinagar in 1625 and wrote that although the raja paid tribute to the Mughals yet no regard was paid to the rescripts from Jahangir and Asaf Khan (the Mughal vizir) with which they had armed themselves.[11] In 1631, Fr. Francis de Azevedo came here from Agra and mentioned that on the death of the raja of Srinagar sixty ladies of the zenana had committed sati.[12] The raja meant in these accounts was most probably Mahipat Sah who was killed in a battle fighting against the Chands.[13]

1. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 377—382; Sankrityayana *op. cit.*, p. 85; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 556
2. *Ibid.*, p. 526
3. Abul Fazli-i-Allami : *Ain-i-Akbari*, trans. by H. S. Jarret and annotated J. N. Sarkar, Vol. II (2nd ed., Calcutta, 1949), p. 492
4. *Ibid.*, p. 285
5. *Ibid.*, p. 294
6. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 548—549
7. *Ibid.*, p. 549
8. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 192
9. Briggs, Col. J. : *Tarikh ir-Firishta* (Eng. trans.) Vol. IV, (London, 1829), pp. 547, 549 ; Atkinson, *op. cit.* Vol. II, pp. 542-543
10. *Ibid* p. 543
11. Saletore, *op. cit.*, p. 17
12. *Ibid.*
13. *Ibid.*

His successor was Prithvi Sah who seems to have ascended the throne about 1630-31 A.D. It is definitely known that in 1640 A. D., he issued a grant of land.[1] He was a powerful ruler and is said to have extended and fixed the western boundaries of his kingdom by waging a successful war upon the hill chiefs ruling in that quarter.[2] In this war his armies must have crossed and recrossed the district of Tehri Garhwal beyond which those states lay. In 1635, a terrible famine is said to have afflicted Garhwal,[3] and soon after in 1635-36) a big Mughal army under the command of Mirza Shuja Najabat Khan Badakshi invaded Garhwal. The raja did not resist this army until it entered the interior of his hilly region and then, blocking all exits, beleaguered it fiercely. The result was that the Mughal soldiers were in a sad plight. Many of them starved to death and the survivors could return to safety only after the raja's men had cut off their noses while their general, in order to escape disgrace, poisoned himself.[4] In 1647, the Mughal prince Dara Shukoh is said to have sent, on behalf of the emperor Shah Jahan, a robe of honour to the raja who seems to have by then been reconciled to the Mughal court.[5] But, in 1654-55, another imperial general, Khalil Ullah Khan, was dispatched to coerce 'the zamindar of Srinagar'[6] that is, Prithvi Sah. Baz Bahadur Chand, the then raja of Kumaon, is also said to have joined hands with the Mughals in chastising his traditional enemy, the raja of Garhwal.[7] The enemy forces overran the Dun region, which was then subject to Garhwal, and probably the adjoining parts of this district. But, although the raja offered no effective resistance, the Mughal army, could not penetrate farther into the hills and their commander eventually giving up the attempt returned to the imperial court.[8] A third expedition early in 1656 caused the raja to send his son to the Mughal court to offer submission.[9]

After Dara Shukoh's defeat and flight as a result of the war of succession of 1658, his son, Sulaiman Shukoh, took refuge in the court of Prithvi Sah.[10] In spite of pressures from his ministers and even the crown prince, Medini Sah, at the instance of Aurangzeb, the raja kept the unfortunate royal refugee in comfort and safety for more than a year,[11] after which he was

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 563
2. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 382-383
3. Salatore, *op. cit.*, pp. 17-18
4. *Ibid.*, p. 18
5. *Ibid.*
6. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII (Allahabad, 1964)., p. 105 (extract from Inayat Khan's *Shahjahan-Nama*)
7. *Ibid.*, p. 107
8. *Ibid.*, pp. 105—107 ; Burn R. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV p. 207
9. *Ibid.*
10. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII, pp. 229-230, 263 (extracts from Khafi Khan's *Muntkhab-ul-Lubab*).
11. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 382—390.

forced by circumstances to surrender him to Aurangzeb's agents.[1] Hostilities between Garhwal and Kumaon continued as before during Prithvi Sah's reign.[2]

An inscription on the gateway of the Raghunathji temple at Devaprayag shows that Prithvi Sah was alive in 1664,[3] but he seems to have died in that very year after he had got that record inscribed. The crown prince Medini Sah had already died at Delhi in 1661. Prithvi Sah was, therefore, succeeded by his grandson, Fateh Sah, who was at that time a child of only seven years. On his accession the emperor Aurangzeb issued a firman (dated January 16, 1664 A. D.) in his favour. During his minority, his mother, Rani Bartwali, appears to have acted as regent.[4] About 1684, Fateh Sah took the reins of the government in his own hands and in 1685, he issued a grant of land.[5] It has been suggested that Fateh Singh who, in 1692, led a memorable raid from the Dehra Dun region into what is the present district of Saharanpur from where he could be driven out with difficulty by Saiyid Ali, the Mughal general, was none other than this Fateh Sah, the raja of Garhwal.[6] It is likely that during this expedition the raja's forces passed through this district.

The Chand rajas of Kumaon continued to remain hostile towards Garhwal even during the reign of Fateh Sah, although now the imperial court appears to have supported this kingdom against that of the Chands.[7] Gyan Chand, the raja of Kumaon, sent a powerful expedition against Garhwal, which penetrated as far as Chandpur and razed the ancient fort of Chandpurgarhi to the ground in 1707 A. D.[8] This was the year in which the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, with whom Fateh Sah appears to have remained on friendly terms throughout, died, his death marking the close of an epoch.

Fateh Sah's constant enemy, Gyan Chand, died in 1708 and was succeeded by Jagat Chand (1708–20) who began his reign by making a fierce raid on the Lohba region of the Garhwal territory. Flushed with success there he rushed down the valley of the Alaknanda, reached Srinagar and forced Fateh Sah to take refuge in flight.[9] But, the latter recovered his position shortly afterwards and his troops were again found

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1. *Ibid*,. pp. 387-388; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 563—565; Saletore, *op. cit.*, p. 19
2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 567-568; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 86, 88
3. Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 391
4. Saletore, *op. cit.*, pp. 19-20
5. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 573
6. *Ibid*,
7. Saletore, *op. cit.*, p. 20
8. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 571-572
9. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 189

mobilised in the Badhan-Lohba region in 1710. In that year Fateh Sah also issued a grant by which he gave away a village in *patti* Katyur of Kumaon itself to the temple of Badrinath.[1] The last grant of this raja was issued in 1716 soon after which he is said to have died.[2] Fateh Sah was one of the notable rulers of the kingdom which was also known as 'Ath-lakh', probably because the land revenue or perhaps the entire annual income of the Garhwal Raj was then estimated to be about 8 lakhs of rupees.[3] Fateh Sah also appears to have assisted Banda, the Sikh leader, in the latter's struggle against the Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah I (1707—12).[4]

Dalip Sah, Fateh Sah's son and successor, issued a grant in 1717, but he ruled only for a few months and was succeeded by his brother, Upendra Sah, who also ruled for about 9 months. The next raja was Pradip Sah was a son of Dalip Sah.[5]

Pradip Sah is known to have issued a number of grants which range in date from 1717, to 1772 thus fixing the period of his reign.[6] During the latter part of the reign of his grandfather, Fateh Sah, and the earlier part of his own rule, this region enjoyed a spell of exceptional prosperity and there was a substantial increase in the revenue of the state[7] to which the partial abatement of hostilities with Kumaon may have also contributed. But this prosperity of the region attracted the notice of the Rohillas. In 1743-44, Hafiz Rahmat Khan, the Rohilla chief, invaded Kumaon, occupied Almora, its capital, and forced its raja, Kalyan Chand, to flee and take refuge in Lohba (in Garhwal territory). The Chand raja appealed to Pradip Sah for help, who, after some hesitation, consented and sent his troops, but the combined Garhwal and Kumaon armies suffered a heavy defeat and even Srinagar was threatened. Pradip Sah had to pay to the Rohillas three lakhs of rupees on behalf of Kalyan Chand, for which consideration they agreed to go back.[8] In 1757, the Rohillas, under Najib Khan, invaded the Dehra Dun side of the Garhwal territory and as Pradip Sah put up only a feeble resistance they occupied that portion and established their authority over it, which continued till Najib Khan's death in 1770.[9] Pradip Sah himself died in 1772 and was succeeded by his son, Lalit Sah.

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1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 573
2. *Ibid.*
3. *Tehri Garwal State Records*, (U. P. State Archives), Series III, S. N. 4
4. Burn, *op. cit.*, p. 323.
5. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 574
6. *Ibid.*, p. 575
7. *Ibid.*
8. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 400-401; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 191; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 92-93; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 586—588
9. *Ibid.*, p. 575

Lalit Sah (1772—1780) paid little attention to the affairs of the District which soon turned into a wilderness, particularly as a result of the plundering raids of the Sikh, Gujar and Rajput marauders of the plains. The raja failed to afford necessary protection to his people against these freebooters except that he tried to buy them off by paying an amount annually to their leaders.[1] At this time utter confusion prevailed in the neighbouring kingdom of Kumaon. The titular raja, Dip Chand, was a weak and incompetent person and real power lay in the hands of the regent, Sib Deo Joshi. When the latter was murdered by his own army the queen took the reins of power in her own hands. Soon she was assassinated by Mohan Singh, a scion of the royal family, who also killed the raja and proclaimed himself the king of Kumaon, under the title Mohan Chand, in 1777. Sib Deo Joshi's friends and relations were massacred or banished and a complete reign of terror ensued.[2] The friends of the royal family of Kumaon appealed to Lalit Sah, ruler of Garhwal, and at last succeeded in persuading him to intervene. Consequently, he marched with his army into Kumaon and routed the troops of the usurper, Mohand Chand, at Bagwali Pokhar in 1779.[3] Lalit Sah had four sons—Jayakrit Sah, Pradyuman Sah, Parakram Sah and Pritam Sah, born of his two wives and he desired to make them all kings. This victory gave him an opportunity and he placed the second son on the throne of Kumaon under the title Pradyuman Chand.[4] In the same year Lalit Sah issued a grant in favour of a temple in Dasoli and another in 1780 in favour of the Bhairava temple of Langurgarhi.[5] Soon after he died and was succeeded on the throne of Garhwal by his eldest son, Jayakrit Sah, whose grants dating from 1780 to 1785 are known to exist.[6]

After the death of their father differences arose between the two brothers, Jayakrit Sah, ruler of Garhwal, and Pradyuman Chand, ruler of Kumaon, the former demanding acknowledgement of his seniority by right of birth and hence of his supremacy, which Pradyuman Chand flatly refused to concede. He said that he was now the raja of Kumaon in his own right and that this kingdom had never accepted the suzerainty of the raja of Garhwal.[7] Jayakrit Sah now began to intrigue with the exile, Mohan Chand, against his own brother who, therefore, sent his prime minister, Harak Deb Joshi, to Srinagar in order to dissuade its raja from his fratricidal activities. Jayakrit Sah, however, doubted the sincerity of the minister's intentions, possibly with reason, and attacked Harak Deb Joshi's camp at Srinagar, but to his surprise he found himself opposed by

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 576-577
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 592—598
3. *Ibid.*, p. 577
4. *Ibid.*
5. *Ibid.*, p. 576
6. *Ibid.*, p. 577
7. Sankrityayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 95-96

a force which defeated his troops. Jayakrit Sah was obliged to seek safety in flight during which he is said to have died (in 1785) of chagrin and fatigue. The Kumaon troops swept everything before them and occupied Srinagar. This raid is know to this day in Garhwal as the 'Joshiyana'.[1] Now Parakram Sah, the third brother, proclaimed himself the raja of Garhwal, but Pradyuman Chand promptly came over from Almora, ousted Parakram Sah and himself ascended the throne of Srinagar under his original name, Pradyuman Sah. For about a year both the kingdoms of Garhwal and Kumaon were combined under his rule, but in 1786 he abandoned the throne of Kumaon where for some time Parakram Sah ruled. The latter was, however, soon ousted by Mohan Chand who was himself killed in 1788 by Harak Deb Joshi.[2]

About 1787 the Dun region of Pradyuman Sah's territory was raided and re-annexed by the Rohillas under Ghulam Kadir. But after the latter's death (in 1789), his deputy, Umed Singh, was reconciled to Pradyuman Sah and continued to hold that district on behalf of the raja of Garhwal.[3]

In the meantime a political revolution in Nepal had resulted, in 1778, in the assumption of supreme authority by Ran Bahadur Sah who soon consolidated the whole of that country under his rule. In 1790, taking advantage of the deplorable state of affairs prevailing at that time in the adjoining kingdom of Kumaon he invaded it with a large force. His armies speedily took possession of Almora and established Gurkha rule in the whole of Kumaon.[4] Next year the Gurkha troops marched into Garhwal and penetrated as far as the fort of Langurgarhi (not far from Srinagar) to which they laid siege. For about a year the Garhwali garrison in the fort continued to defy its besiegers. But then news of a Chinese invasion of Nepal itself compelled the Gurkhas to raise the siege. They, however, did not draw back until the raja of Garhwal had agreed to pay to the government of Nepal an annual tribute of Rs 25,000 and keep an agent at the court of Kathmandu (Nepal).[5] This settlement preserved a semblance of amity between the two governments for about the next 12 years.[6]

Small parties of Gurkhas, however, continued to plunder periodically the parganas of Garhwal that bordered on Kumaon. The inhabitants, on their part, made bloody reprisals on the raiders. Besides the annual

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 96-97; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 577-578, 603-604
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 604-605; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 96—97
3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 578-579
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 607—609
5. Sanwal, B. D.: *Nepal and the East India Company*, pp. 62-63; Hamilton, Walter: *A Geographical, Historical and Statistical Description of Hindostan, and the Adjacent Countries*, Vol. II, p. 636; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 114-115; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 193-194
6. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 610

tribute, that raja had to bear heavy expenses on account of maintenance of the Nepalese resident at his court and had also to accord hospitality to those Nepalese who now in larger numbers and more often began to visit his territory on the excuse of pilgrimage. In 1794-95, Garhwal was afflicted by a severe famine known as the Ekavani-Bavani, because of the Samvat year 1851-52, and in 1803 A. D. the country was shaken by a terrible earthquake. These natural calamities took a heavy toll of human lives and cattle.[1] Then, there were factions and intrigues in the court circles at Srinagar and the payment of the annual tribute to Nepal had also not been made for two or three years prior to 1803. The Gurkhas had also failed several times in their attempts at capturing the fort of Langurgarhi. All these factors led to the Gurkha invasion of Garhwal in 1803.

A well-equipped and powerful army, under the leadership of Amar Singh Thapa, Hastidal Chautariya, Bam Sah and others, marched into Garhwal and rapidly advanced upon Srinagar. In place of offering effective resistance to the enemy, the raja Pradyuman Sah abandoned the capital and fled to Dehra Dun with the members of his family. The whole of Garhwal, including this district, was occupied by the Gurkhas who hotly pursued the raja and drove him out of the Dun which also they occupied. The raja then sold away all the valuables he had with him, succeeded in enlisting the help of Ramdayal Singh, the Gujar raja of of Landhaura (district Saharanpur), and raised an army of about 12,000 men. At its head he re-entered the Dun, but too late. He failed in this attempt to recover his kingdom and died fighting in the battle of Khurbura (near Dehra Dun) in January, 1804. Pritam Sah was taken prisoner by the Gurkhas, Parakram Sah fled to Kangra and Sudarshan Sah, the eldest son of the late raja, sought the protection of the British in the plains.[2] He was a minor at that time and was placed in an unenviable situation by the force of circumstances. It was with great difficulty that his friends and a few faithful followers could keep his life safe.[3]

The Gurkha commander, Amar Singh Thapa, with his son Ranjor Thapa as deputy, held the administration of both Kumaon and Garhwal during the year 1804.[4] Later, Hastidal Chautariya and Sardar Bhakti Thapa were probably associated with the management of affairs, particularly in Garhwal.[5] In Garhwal the sole object of the Gurkha conquerors was to get as much as they could squeeze out of the country. They, therefore, adopted the administrative system of its former rajas, on

1. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 418-419
2. *Ibid.*, p. 437; Hamilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 636-637; Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 199 ; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 615-616
3. *Zila Tehri-Garhwal ki Bandobast Report* (1965), p. 7
4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 616
5. *Ibid.*, pp. 619—620

which they grafted a military antocracy of their own. The country of Garhwal was divided into three commands The headquarters of none of the commands was, however, situated in this district which probably fell under the jurisdiction of the Srinagar command. Minor civil magistracies were filled by officers who were called *faujdars* (a military title) and who ruled the people with a rod of iron. They were allowed a free hand and as long as they paid in the stipulated revenue no questions were asked as to the means employed by them in exacting it from the people. They remunerated themselves by taking farm of the revenue and appropriating the fines they realised in their judicial capacity. Neither property nor honour was safe with these officers and the defaulters were often arrested and sold into slavery. The government was ferocious but weak. Under this oppressive and destructive alien rule the country fell into a state of lamentable decay. Spirit was crushed out of the people, villages became deserted, agriculture was ruined, population decreased beyond computation and no families of consequence remained in the area. The barbarities of the Gurkhas, including the most severe and often ridiculous imposts and *dands* (fines) levied by them on the people, heavily depopulated the region which reduced the revenue to about one-fourth of what the rajas of Garhwal used to realise themselves.[1] It was only then, in 1811, that a commission was directed from Nepal to enquire into the abuses of its officers.[2]

In the meantime, friends of Sudarshan Sah, particularly the ex-minister Harak Deb Joshi who was biding his time in exile, had been making appeals from time to time to the authorities of the East India Company for their help in the deliverance of Garhwal from the Gurkha yoke. But their attempts bore little fruit till the Gurkhas began to make encroachments on the British territory itself and persisted in doing so despite remonstrances. At last the British took up the challenge and decided to settle issues with the Gurkhas. Consequently, in 1814, Lord Hastings, the then governor-general ordered an attack to be made on the Nepalese army simultaneously from as many points as possible[3], and General Gillespie was given orders to enter Garhwal and dislodge Amar Singh Thapa, the Gurkha leader, from Srinagar. The general tried to enter this country by way of the Dun, but the attempt failed and he himself was killed at the siege of Kalanga, about 5 km. east of Dehra Dun. The fort was, however, utlimately taken by the British who by the end of 1814 succeeded in driving out the Gurkhas from the Dun.[4] The British pursued the advantage and attacked Kumaon which had already been

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 620—622
2. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 201-202
3. Dodwell, H. H. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, pp. 378-379; Hunter, H. H. : *The Marquess of Hastings*, pp. 72-73; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 629—614
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 634-640 ; Dodwell, *op. cit.*, pp. 378—379

drained of Gurkha soldiers to supply urgent calls of their leaders from the different war fronts in the east and the west. On April 27, 1815, the British captured Almora and the Gurkhas under Bam Sah evacuated Kumaon and with it the whole of Garhwal.[1]

It has been acknowledged by the English writers themselves that their victory in this war was brought about more by the weakness of the Gurkhas here than by any skill or courage on the part of the British and that the greatest source of weakness for the Gurkhas was the universal disaffection of the local inhabitants. As soon as the British troops entered the hills the people of the region began to join their camp and to bring in necessary provisions for their use. They also supplied to the British officers useful information regarding the movements of the Gurkhas and gave them every facility for obtaining local knowledge of this region, which in such a difficult terrain would otherwise have been impossible for the British to get for themselves. Harak Deb Joshi, who still exercised great influence on the people, was one of the principal instruments in persuading them to help the British. Without this whole-hearted help and co-operation of the people of Garhwal itself it would have been impossible for the British to achieve success in this war.[2] And when once the power of the Gurkhas was broken the inhabitants exacted full payment of the debt of blood, cruely and rapine which their erstwhile oppressors owed to them. Isolated bands of Gurkhas were massacred or driven away to die of exposure and starvation in the mountains, every one of them having been already stripped of all his possessions. It was a terrible revenge. Only a few who had married into local families and were given protection by their relatives or those who were given shelter by some kindly zamindars, could escape the fate which overtook a majority of their comrades.[3]

On May 3, 1815, the British declared that this area was annexed to their territory, although the treaty by which it was ceded to the British was concluded on December 2, 1815, and ratified on March 4, 1816.[4]

At this time Sudarshan Sah, son of Pradyuman Sah, was living in great poverty in Dehra Dun. The British were not so generous as to restore to him his kingdom of Garhwal intact. They handed over to him only the area covered by the present district of Tehri Garhwal, to which pargana Rawain (now the district of Uttar Kashi) was subsequently added in 1824. The rest of the raja's territory, including the present districts of Chamoli, Garhwal and Dehra Dun, were annexed to British territory.[5] The poor raja was helpless and could do nothing but to submit and

1. *Ibid.*; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 647-666
2. *Ibid.*, p. 654
3. *Ibid.*, pp. 622-623
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 666-667; Dodwell, *op. cit.*, pp. 378-379
5. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 211; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 680—682

remain grateful and loyal to his overlords, the British. For his capital he chose the site of Tehri, near the sacred confluence (Ganeshprayag) of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana, and built his palace there on the top of a hill called Purana Darbar.[1] It was in 1824 that a formal sanad under the seal of the supreme government of the East India Company was conferred upon him. By the terms of this sanad the raja of Tehri Garhwal was bound to give assistance and supplies when called upon to do so by the British authorities and to furnish facilities to the British for trading in his country and the countries beyond. He could not alienate or mortgage any portion of his territory without the consent of the British government.[2] This was now one of the many so-called native states of India, subordinate to the British government. Sudarshan Sah was possessed an amiable disposition and soon succeeded in establishing his hold over his subjects, particularly as they had already been through very bad times indeed. During the freedom struggle of 1857, the raja helped the British with men and money and kept 200 of his soldier in readiness at the hill of Rajpur till the end of that struggle. It is said that the nawab of Najibabad tried to persuade him to join hands against the British which Sudarshan Sah flatly refused remaining loyal to his masters.[3] In consideration of his loyalty and services the British are said to have intended to give him the Bijnor region but he demanded instead the Dun valley and British Garhwal which had formerly formed part of his ancestors' kingdom. Negotiations in this respect had not gone far when Sudarshan Sah died in June, 1859, and the matter was dropped for ever. This raja is said to have been a good administrator, a learned scholar, well versed in Sanskrit poetry, and also a poet. A contemporary poet, probably a protege of that raja, composed a work, *Sudarshanodayam Kavyam,* in sanskrit, in his patron's praise.

Sudarshan Sah had no male issue, which fact gave rise to intrigues in the royal family over the question of succession to the throne. The raja himself seems to have had favoured the cause of one Bhawani Sah, but the Khaneti Rani, his queen, was in favour of another person, Sher Sah. No sooner than Sudarshan Sah died Sher Sah, with the rani's help, declared himself the raja and she herself got control of the royal treasury. In order to obtain recognition of his claim from the British government, Sher Sah got all his step-brothers as also the *thokdars, thakurs and sayanas* of the kingdom to forward a petition in his favour to the British commissioner of Kumaon, within whose jurisdiction this state fell. This document was signed by 106 men and even Bhawani Sah was coerced into signing it in token of the relinquishment of his claim to the throne. Bhawani Sah's wives, however, rose to the occasion and extricated him but of this predicament. The commissioner intervened, paid a visit to

1. *Zila Tehri Garhwal ki Bandobast Report*; p. 19
2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 683
   Raturi. *op. cit.*, p. 465

Tehri and asked Sher Sah to give up his claim in lieu of pargana Jaunpur to be held by him in jagir and the status of a minister of sttae. Sher Sah did not agree and threatened rebellion. He was, therefore, taken away from Tehri on the pretext of a hunt and was kept as a captive at Dehra Dun.[1] Bhawani Sah ascended the throne, but he was of a mild temperament, loved solitude and passed his time in visiting holy places. Early in his reign the inhabitants of pargana Jaunpur started an agitation against the raja, probably at the instance of Sher Sah or his friends, but it died out as soon as news arrived that British troops from Dehra Dun were on their way to crush the rebellion. Pargana Rawain also revolted once during the reign of this raja who succeeded in subduing the uprising promptly. Bhawani Sah died in 1871 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Pratap Sah.[2]

This raja was a youngman of 21 at the time of his accession. He built a new township, of the name of Pratapnagar, on a hill top near Tehri. Realising the necessity of providing educational facilities to his people the raja founded a school (now the Pratap Intermediate College) at Tehri. He was a lover of music and was found of hunting. He also tried to improve his forest, judicial and police administration.[3] In his time several public uprisings occurred. The first of these took place in *patti* Khas (pargana Chandrabadni of tahsil Pratapnagar) but soon subsided at the persuasion of the raja. Next was the Basar revolt of 1882, which was led by one Lachmu Kathait who, although a *faujdar* of the raja sided with the people of Rajgaon (patti Kaimar-Basar of pargana Chilla, tahsil Pratapnagar). The people of that village had come to the capital to offer to the raja traditional presents on the occasion of his safe return from England. But they were harassed by the raja's men and were made to wait in Tehri unnecessarily for a whole month. Lachmu Kathait, who belonged to the same village and at that time happened to be in the capital, became their spokesman, for which he was dismissed from service and all his property was confiscated. He proceeded to Naini Tal and laid his complaint against the raja before the governor of the province who thereupon directed the commissioner of Kumaon to look into the matter. Some 14,000 men assembled and proceeded to Pauri where the commissioner was then staying, in order to support their leader. The raja at once relented; intercepted the crowd in the way, declared a reduction in the tax from 4 *pathas* of grain to 2 *pathas* only, conferred marks of honour on Lachmu Kathait and restored to him his property. In 1886 also, inhabitants of some parganas agitated against the conduct of some of the raja's officers and collected in a large number at the capital. Just then the raja died and the people quietly dispersed at the appeal of Rani Guleri, his widow and now the Rajmata (queen-mother).[4]

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 466 474
2. *Idid.*, pp. 475—476
3. *Ibid.*, pp. 476-477
4. *Ibid.*

Kirti Sah, Pratap Sah's son and successor, was a boy of only 12 years and his mother, Rajmata Guleri, appointed Vikram Singh, an uncle of the raja, his regent. The people did not like him and within a year there were signs of a serious revolt. The queen-mother took the administration in her own hands and appointed for her help a council of regency comprising 3 members. In 1892 Kirti Sah came of age and took the reins of government in his own hands.[1] He was married to a grand-daughter of Maharana Jang Bahadur of Nepal, had received a good education and took keen interest in the administration and welfare of his subjects. His reign is, therefore, marked by several notable achievements. A number of schools were started for the benefit of the public, a beautiful clock tower was erected in the capital town of Tehri and a new township, Kirti Nagar, was founded. The raja established at Tehri a chief court for the hearing of appeals against the judgments of lower courts and enforced some new laws in his state. The Bank of Garhwal also dates from his time. Kirti Sah died in 1913 at the age of 40 and was succeeded by his son, Narendra Sah, who was then a minor.[2]

During Narendra Sah's minority the administration of the state was carried on by a political agent appointed by the British government. Like his father, he was an educated prince, had a knack for politics and took active interest in the administration of his state. He founded a new city, Narendra Nagar, to which he shifted the seat of his government, and constructed the Kirti Nagar-Tehri motor road. He got the civil laws of the state compiled in a work named the *Narendra Hindu Law* in 1918, got a revenue settlement made of the entire land in 1924, and a forest settlement in 1927-28. The *munar-bandi* (fixation of the limits) of the forests now extended them very close to the villages themselves, leaving practically no forest area for the use of the inhabitants. This resulted in a serious revolt, known as the Rawain *dhandak* (rebellion against the king), in the pargana of Rawain (now in Uttar Kashi district). In order to suppress the rising the raja sent his troops. Who resorted freely to the use of their guns killing many persons. The revolt was put down and several of the captured rebels were sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment. These events took place in 1930.[3]

The fervour and inspiration of the struggle for independence, that was going on in British India, had also affected the people of this state who were now becoming conscious of their civic rights and of the exploitation and humiliation they had been suffering from under the rule of the rajas. Excessive and numerous taxes, imposts and conventional ceremonial exactions, the *system of najrana* (premium or forcible presents), of *bara, begar* and *prabhusewa* (forms of forced and unpaid labour), and of

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 478–480
2. *Ibid.*, p. 434
3. *Zila Tehri-Garhwal ki Bandobast Report*, p. 7

border *pauntolis* (custom chowkies), the existence of certain privileged classes who did not lag behind the rajas in exploiting the masses, unchecked corruption and bribery, and the untenable claim to the divine right of the king as Baland Badrinath (the living embodiment of the god Badrinath) gradually but steadily led the self-respecting and liberty-loving people of the state to become determined to free themselves from this state of affairs.

In 1939, certain persons belonging to this state but living outside it founded at Dehra Dun a society named Praja Mandal which started a regular movement for the liberation of the people of the state from the despotic rule of its rajas. The most prominent of the leaders of this movement was Srideva Suman, a journalist who was born on May 20, 1915, in the village of Jaul (in *patti* Bamund, pargana Narendra Nagar, tahsil Tehri). In order to coordinate the activities of all the people of the state who were living outside it branches of the Praja Mandal were set up at Mussoorie, Lahore and Delhi. Srideva Suman was also associated with the Indian National Congress and had contacts with its leaders, particularly Jawahar Lal Nehru. Influenced by the activities of the Praja Mandal and the threatened rebellion the raja, Narendra Sah, made some progressive gestures. A state constituent assembly was formed and the students of the Pratap Intermediate College were permitted to organise a debating society in which they could voice their grievances. Consequently the student agitation gained momentum. The authorities tried to crush it but in vain. The influence of the Praja Mandal rapidly spread among the common folk of the district and many of its workers were secretly busy in alienating the people from the raja. They started a number of educational and cultural institutions in different parts of the state, which were nothing but centres of political activity in disguise.

In 1942, under the impact of the Quit India Movement the Praja Mandal demanded that the raja must sever relations with the British. But, as soon as this agitation was started, Srideva Suman with 31 others was arrested at Devaprayag and sent to be confined in the Tehri jail. Srideva Suman vehemently protested against the inhuman treatment of the jail authorities and had at last to go on hunger strike on May 3, 1944. Further chastisement made him catch pneumonia which proved fatal. Even his own people were not informed of his illness and eventual death and his body was secretly drowned in the Bhagirathi.

The martyrdom of Srideva Suman gave an unprecedented impetus to the movement for independence and all the branches of the Praja Mandal outside the state became vociferous in their attack against the raja. The I. N. A. men hailing from this district who had now come back added fuel to the fire. In 1946, despite the raja's police and prohibitory orders, Suman Day was celebrated in the district with great enthusiasm. With a view to increase his revenue the raja had commenced in 1944 a revision of the revenue settlement, which had to be stopped owing to this agitation.

The inhabitants of Karakot (pargana Kirti Nagar, tahsil Devaprayaga) sent a deputation under the leadership of Daulat Ram and Narendra Datt Saklani to Narendra Nagar in order to protest to the raja against the institutions of *bara, begar, najrana, pauntoli,* forest laws and others oppressive practices. The only result was that the deputationists were arrested and imprisoned at Tehri. The spirit of the movement, however, could not be crushed and on August 21, 1946, the raja had to recognise the Praja Mandal as a legal body, but at the same time he got a reactionary body organised under the name of Praja Hitkarini Sabha.

In May 1947, the Praja Mandal held its first conference at Tehri, and demanded constitutional and responsible government in the state. On August 15, 1947, India got independence, but the raja presumed that he had now come to have more powers as his British overlords were no more there. Consequently, he ordered the arrest of the president of the Praja Mandal. The city of Tehri went on complete strike and 32 leaders of the people were arrested but were released after having been fined heavily. In the meantime the people of Saklana (pargana Narendra Nagar, tahsil Tehri) revolted against the state monopoly in the sale of potatoes produced there. The raja's government had also imposed a new tax known as *rahdari* and tried to crush the revolt in Saklana. Hence the Praja Mandal decided to launch a statewide satyagraha movement for which camps were started at different places. Despite all efforts of the state police to crush the movement, it achieved remarkable success in the first instance in the estate of Saklana where the *muafidar* (rent-free zamindar) surrendered all his rights and privileges on December 16, 1947, to the Praja Mandal which replaced all the former officers by its own men and set up an Azad Panchayat to administer the region. On the occasion of the Dhadhi Ghandiyal fair (at Badiyargarh, pargana Kirti Nagar, tahsil Devaprayag) the speeches of the leaders fired the imagination of the gathering and an Azad Panchayat was established for that area as well. Soon Kirti Nagar was occupied by the freedom fighters at whose approach the place was abandoned by the subdivisional officer and the people inspector who saw safety in flight. From there a procession of about 200 satyagrahis started for Tehri where many others had already collected. In the meantime the Azad Panchayat of Kirti Nagar compelled the raja's troops, police and other officers, who had been despatched by the raja to capture the place, to surrender and become its captives. Two of the leaders of the Azad Panchayat, Narendra Datt Saklani and Mohan Singh, were killed in the action. The news of their martyrdom spread like wild fire and when their bodies were being taken to Tehri large numbers of villagers joined the procession. When it reached the capital it was the Makar Sankranti day, an occasion for sacred bath at the confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana. Many people had already arrived there for the purpose. Thus thousands of people witnessed the cremation of the bodies of the martyrs and took a vow on the spot to uproot the raja's

rule. The situation then took a very serious turn, the raja was in a fix, his government was paralysed and administration had come almost to a standstill. The gates of the city at the bridge were closed by the people. The queen pleaded with the revolutionaries but to no effect, nor could the entreaties of the old king, Narendra Sah, or of the young crown prince, Manvendra Sah, prevail with the excited mob.

The result was that Narendra Sah abdicated in favour of his son Manvendra Sah who was thus the 60th and the last ruler of his line and the first and the last constitutional monarch of this region. January 15, 1948, was marked as the day of liberation and a constitutional monarchy was set up in February, 1948, with an interim ministry which was presided over by one Jyoti Prashad who was sent here on deputation by the government of Uttar Pradesh. In 1949, the ex-raja, Narendra Sah, was killed in a car accident.

The constitutional monarchy and the interim ministry functioned till July 31, 1949, and the next day the erstwhile state of Tehri Garhwal was declared as merged in the State of Uttar Pradesh of the Indian Union. Manvendra Sah was given a privy purse of rupees three lakhs plus certain allowances for his relatives and kinsmen. From August 1 to December 1, 1949, this area was administered as a separate district under the charge of the above-mentioned officer on deputation, and on December 1, 1949, it was constituted into a regular district of the name of Tehri Garhwal, in the Kumaon Division of the State of Uttar Pradesh.

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CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

Growth of Population

The first regular census of the population of the district of Tehri Garhwal, as it exists today, was held in 1961. At the enumeration of 1951 the district also included the area now covered by the district of Uttar Kashi, and prior to that it formed part of the princely state of Tehri Garhwal in which no systematic censuses of population seem to have been held as in other parts of India. Decennial estimates of the population of the area now covered by the district have, however, been arrived at for the period after 1900, but no data are available for the period prior to that year.

The decennial figures for the population of the area comprised in the present district, from 1901 to 1961, are given in the following statement:

Year	Persons	Male	Female	Females per 1,000 males
1901	1,99,831	99,173	1,00,658	1,015
1911	2,23,569	1,10,355	1,13,214	1,026
1921	2,36,641	1,16,328	1,20,313	1,034
1931	2,59,796	1,28,826	1,30,970	1,017
1941	2,95,321	1,49,467	1,45,854	976
1951	3,06,305	1,43,638	1,62,667	1,132
1961	3,47,736	1,57,909	1,89,827	1,202

The decennial growth with variations and percentages of variation in the population of the district, from 1901 to 1961, were as given below:

Year	Population	Variation	Percentage of variation
1901	1,99,831	..	..
1911	2,23,569	+23,738	+11.88
1921	2,36,641	+13,072	+5.85
1931	2,59,796	+23,155	+9.78
1941	2,95,321	+35,525	+13·67
1951	3,06,305	+10,984	+3.72
1961	3,47,736	+41,431	+13·53

Thus during the 60 years ending in 1961, there has been an increase of about 74 per cent in the population of the district. Since there was hardly any urban area and the only increase noticed in it was 27.8 per cent in the decade 1951–61, the general increase was mostly marked in the rural area. The growth of population has been substantial, but the rate of growth has not been even or steady. The highest rise, 13.67 per cent, was noticed in the decade 1931–41, followed by 13.53 per cent in 1951–61 and 11.88 per cent in 1901–11, whereas the lowest increase was 3.72 per cent in 1941–51. In point of population the district stood 51st among the districts of U. P. and last among the 4 districts of the Kumaon Division. The density of population in the district is about 77 persons per square kilometre, which is much below the State average of 250 persons per sq. km. In the urban area of the district the density is about 176 persons per sq. km., which is also a very low figure. The female population of the district is higher by 31,918 than its male population, the sex ratio being for every 1,000 males 1,202 females in the whole district, 1,222 in its rural area and 567 in the urban area. Thus the proportion of females to males in the district as well as in its rural area is the highest in the whole State.

Population by Subdivisions/Tahsils

The district comprises 3 tahsils and has in it 2,018 villages of which 76 are uninhabited and 2 are wholly included in towns. The tahsilwise break-up of the villages and rural population is as follows :

Tahsil	Villages		Population		
	Uninhabited	Inhabited	Persons	Male	Female
Tehri	30	621	92,887	43,635	49,252
Pratapnagar ..	26	463	97,505	41,487	56,018
Devaprayag ..	20	856	1,49,748	67,941	81,807
Total ..	76	1,940	3,40,140	1,53,063	8,87,077

Immigration and Emigration

Since, according to the census of 1961, as many as 96.08 per cent of the population was born in the district itself, there appears to have been no significant immigration into it during the past decades. Of the rest, 3.20 per cent were born in other districts of Uttar Pradesh, .25 per cent in other States of India and .19 per cent (in all 686 persons) in Asian countries outside India. There were only 2 Europeans (1 male and 1 female) and one American woman in the district. There were 936 persons (155 males and 781 females), or about .28 per cent of the population, who were unclassifiable. Those migrating from other parts of the State numbered 11,132 (males 4,001 and females 7,131) and those from other parts of the country were 879 (males 550 and females 329) among whom

the number of those hailing from Punjab is the largest, that is, 387 (including 98 females), followed by 146 (including 64 females) from Himachal Pradesh and 84 (males 41 and females 43) from Rajasthan. Among the 686 (including 180 females) foreign nationals from Asian countries the largest number, 393 (including 52 females), migrated from Nepal, followed by 287 (males 161 and females 126) from Pakistan.

Of the 11,132 migrants from other districts of Uttar Pradesh, 2,261 had been residing in the district for less than one year, 2,613 for more than one year but less than 5 years, 1,295 from 5 to 10 years, 1,192 from 10 to 15 years and 3,637 for over 15 years, while 134 did not state the period of their residence here. Of those from other States, 442 were living in the district for less than a year, 195 from 1 to 5 years, and 92 for over 15 years. Among them out of the 387 Punjabis 202 had been here for less than a year and only 47 for more than 15 years. Among the 689 foreign nationals residing in the district there were 393 Nepalese of whom 304 had been here for less than a year, and out of the 287 Pakistanis 18 had been living in the district for less than one year, 58 from 1 to 5 years, 66 from 5 to 10 years, 88 from 10 to 15 years and only 54 for over 15 years, the period of stay in case of the remaining 3 having not been stated.

Quite a few persons from the district go out to the adjoining districts of Garhwal and Dehra Dun and even to places elsewhere either in search of better employment or for purposes of study, or in connection with employment in civil or military service. As exact figures of these emigrants are not forthcoming the loss to the district population on this account is difficult to assess.

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Displaced Persons

As a result of the partition of the country in 1947 some of the refugees from Pakistan found shelter in these parts. Fifty seven displaced families, consisting of 307 persons, had been registered in this district till January 1954. Most of these persons settled down at Tehri. Attempts at rehabilitating them were made and licenses to deal in controlled commodities were issued to them. But, as there was little scope in the district, a majority of the displaced persons appear to have moved out of the district subsequently. Those who were left behind opened stalls at Tehri and other important wayside stations where they are doing good business. Their rehabilitation in the district has not been a problem.

Distribution of Population

There is in this district only a small urban area consisting of the 3 small towns of Tehri, Narendra Nagar and Devaprayag, all of which are class VI towns (according to the census) and are notified areas. The district is, therefore, preponderantly rural. The number of inhabited villages

falling under different ranges of population and the population and percentage of population for each category are given in the statement that follows :

Range of population	Number of villages	Population	Male	Female	Percentage of population
1—99	1,305	1,30,450	59,308	71,142	38.4
200—499	569	1,66,817	74,208	92,609	49.0
500—999	66	42,873	19,547	23,326	12.6
1,000 and above	..	..	..	..	..
Towns	3	7,596	4,846	2,750	2.18 of total population.

Thus about 98 per cent of the population of the district lives in villages and only 2.18 per cent in the urban area. Of the rural population 49.0 per cent resides in villages inhabited by 200–499 persons followed by 38.4 per cent living in villages with a population under 200 each. In other words, the bulk of the population of the district lives in small villages of the size under 500.

Language

The different languages returned as mother tongues by the people of the district at the census of 1961 are as given below :

Language	Number of persons
Garhwali	3,35,147
Hindi	10,583
Urdu	368
Nepali	358
Punjabi	333
Kumauni	324
Kangri	253
Gorkhali	53
Gujarati	45
Pashchimi	45
Kanauri	41
Marwari	36
Kashmiri	30
Gujari	26
20 others	114

Thus as many as 34 different languages or dialects are spoken in the district, but only 7 of them are such as were returned as their mother tongues by more than 100 persons each, while the number of persons speaking the remaining 27 range from 1 to 53 only. The largest percentage, 96.38, is of those whose mother tongue is Garhwali, followed by Hindi with 3.05 per cent. Ordinarily, Hindi is understood all over the district. A majority of those whose mother tongue other than Garhwali or Hindi are bilinguists and many among the Garhwali or Hindi speaking people are also bilinguists, whereas there are some who are multilinguists.

Garhwali

The principal dialect of the district is what is known as the Tehri or Gangapariya, a form of the Garhwali which itself is a form of the central Pahari in the Pahari group of the Indo-Aryan branch of the Indo-European family of languages. Thus the local dialect may be said to be a form of western Hindi, influenced considerably by Rajasthani and to some extent by Punjabi. A majority of its words are adopted directly from Hindi, which in their turn are adopted of adapted from Sanskrit. From the point of view of its evolution the speech of the district may be said to be derived mostly from the Shurseni Apabhramsha and to some extent from the Darad language through the agency of the early Khasa immigrants. Thus although its vocabulary is derived mainly from Hindi or Sanskrit, it has also some words which are peculiarly Khasa or Daradic in origin. The influence of the Rajasthani is explained as being due to the presence of the Rajput immigrants from the plains, who ruled over this area for more than a thousand years.

The saying that 'dialect changes with the pargana' holds good here as well, but there are no very significant variations inside the district, except that the speech of pargana Jaunpur in the west is influenced by the Jaunsari of the adjoining Jaunsar-Bawar tract (Dehra Dun district) and that of the eastern parganas by the Srinagariya and Salani dialects of the neighbouring tracts of district Garhwal. Still, the main dialect forms prevalent in the district may be said to be the Jaunpuri of pargana Jaunpur, which differs in accent ; the Raika-Ramoli of pargana Pratapnagar, which the 's' sound usually becomes aspirate, changing into 'h' sound; the Gangarhi, spoken along the bank of the Alaknanda (Ganga) ; The Badiyargarhi of *patti* Lostu Badiyargarh (pargana Kirti Nagar) ; the Khaspatti of *patti* Khas (pargana Chandrabadni) ; the Nailchami of *patti* Nainchami (pargana Bhilung) ; and the Hindava of *patti* Hindau (same pargana).

Like the Kumauni, the Garhwali of the district is not a *granthastha* (literary) language, but is mostly a spoken language.

Special Features—The pronunciation of words in the Tehri dialect is not much different from that of those in Hindi except that there is a tendency to pronounce *na* as *ṇa*, that is, of changing the dental 'n' into

the palatal one, and of sometimes shortening the final elongated 'e'. Numbers, genders and cases of nouns and pronouns in this dialect are almost the same as in Hindi, even the formations are the same except in certain cases such as *pankhru* for Hindi *pankhon* (wings), *makhon* or *makha* for Hindi *makhiyon* (flies), and *balakoo* for Hindi *balakon* (children). Certain Hindi words are used in their corrupted or adapted form such as *mankhi* for Hindi *manushya* (man) and *jaga* for Hindi *jagaha* (place). Adjectival forms are also sometimes changed as in *thando* for Hindi *thanda* (cold) and *achchho* for Hindi *achchha* (good). As regards verbs, the people here use the Rajasthani *chha* or *chhan* for Hindi *hai* (is) and the Punjabi forms *janda, chainda, denda, dikhenda, honde,* etc., for Hindi *jata-hai* (goes), *chahta-hai* (wishes or should), *deta hai* (gives), *dekhta-hai* (sees), *hota-hai* (is or becomes), etc., respectively. In the future tense verbs often take the form *hvai-jalo* or *ho-lo* for Hindi *ho-jaega* (will be), and in the past perfect the form *paikaik milaik*, etc., for Hindi *pakakar* (having cooked), *mila-kar* (having mixed), etc.

The following few specimens will give an idea of the characteristics of this dialect, at the same time indicating its close affinity with Hindi:

Un man saf suthra rahan aur likhan padhan ki ruchi utpanna karni (Hindi—*un men saf sutra rahne aur likhne padhane ki ruchi utpanna karna*—to create in them a taste for clean living and writing and reading or study)

haija ki bimari ek prakar ka kidoun se paide honde. Ye kida itna chhota honde ki khali ankhon se ni dikhenda. Ye bimari khan-pen ki chiju dvara failde. Bahut karik haija sani makha failondan. (Hindi—*haije ki bimari ek prakar ke kidon se paida hoti-hai. Yeh kida itna chhota hota-hai ki khali ankhon se nahin dikhta. Yeh bimari khane-peene ki cheejon se failti-hai. Bahut kar-ke haije ko makhiyan failati-hain.* The disease of cholera is caused by a kind of germs. This germ is too small to be seen by the naked eye. This disease spreads through articles of eating and drinking. Mostly it is the flies which spread cholera).

A number of common Persian or Urdu and some English words have also been adopted in this dialect, such as *mulk, cheez, pasand, janana, bazar, aspatal* (hospital), *maimber* (*member*), etc.

Script

The script universally used in the district is the Devanagri with practically no local variation. Besides Garhwali and Hindi, which together cover about 99.5 per cent of the population of the district, 15 other languages or dialects spoken here have the Devanagri for their script. The remaining few use the characters connected with their mother tongues in their personal or private use, but the number of those who use them is negligible.

Religion and Caste

The population of the district according to the different religions professed here, as recorded at the census of 1961, is given below:

Religion	Persons	Male	Female
Hinduism	3,45,376	1,56,920	1,88,456
Islam	2,151	874	1,277
Sikhism	94	50	44
Jainism	68	34	34
Buddhism	25	15	10
Christianity	19	13	6
Religion not stated	3	3	..
Total ..	3,47,736	1,57,909	1,89,827

Principal Communities

Hindu—The Hindu society in the district, as elsewhere, is pattrened on the traditional fourfold caste system, but owing to the predominance of the Khasa element in its population there appears to be here a three-tier structure of society. Its heirarchical orders may be said to be, first, the high class Brahmanas and Rajputs, whose ancestors migrated from the plains and settled down here at different times in the past; second, the Khasa who are also divided into Khasa Brahmanas and Khasa Rajputs; and lastly, the Doms, now generally designated Shilpkars, who are considered to be Shudras or Harijans and are classed among the Scheduled Castes. There are also a few Vaish immigrants from the plains. The Brahmanas and Rajputs, both of the plains and Khasa extraction, are together generally termed Bith of Bit, in order to distinguish them from the Doms who usually address them as Thakur.

The Khasas are among the oldest inhabitants of this area. A number of ancient Indian books like the *Vayu Purana, Vishnu Purana, Markandeya Purana, Harivamsha Purana, Bhagavata Purana,* the *Mahabharata* and the *Varaha Samhita* describe the Khasa as one of the tribes dwelling on the borders of India. They are also said to have descended from a very early branch of the Aryan immigrants into this country. In the past the Khasa settlers of this region were disparagingly described as being without Brahmanas of their own, and it appears that they were not completely Hinduised until the times of Shankaracharya who is believed to have visited these Himalayan regions about the beginning of the 9th century A. D. As a result of the growing contacts with the plains and the arrival in wave after wave of Brahmana and Rajput immigrants from there the Khasas came to adopt many of their customs and beliefs and also some of these Brahmanas as their own priests. Possibly their original tribal priests had also begun performing for them the functions of the Brahmanas and in the course of time also adopted their caste designation (Brahamana). Similarly, emulating the Rajputs from the plains and also intermarrying with many of them, a majority of the Khasas began to call

themselves Rajputs, and thus a caste of Khasa Rajputs, as district from plains Rajputs, came into being.

In the district, the Brahmanas constitute about 20 per cent of the Hindu population and a majority of them claim to be high class, that is, non-Khasa. They are said to descend mostly from the Gaur, Kanya-kubja, Maithila and Saravasvata subdivisions of the Brahmanas from the plains. At present they are divided into 12 subcastes the most important of which are the Sarola, Gangari and Devaprayagi. The Sarolas are said to be the descendants of the traditional cooks of the rajas of Garhwal. Almost everybody can eat rice cooked by them and they are, therefore, deemed to be the most respected of the local Brahmanas. The Gangaris are those Brahmanas who live in the valley of the Ganga and generally serve as temple priests in the villages. The Devaprayagis are Pandas who cater to the needs of the pilgrims who come to visit the holy places of Garhwal. The Khasa Brahmanas are also known as Nana-gotris, perhaps because they adopt the *gotra* of their nanas (maternal grandfathers). There are numerous further subdivisions of the Brahamanas, both Khasa and non-Khasa, in the district, which are named after the *thats* or villages in which the ancestors of each originally settled down. These names are obtained usually by adding one or the other of the suffixes 'wal', 'yal', 'i', 'wan', etc., to the name of that, such as, Kuriyal, Kotyal, Ghildyal, Dabral, Dimri, Thapliyal, Nautiyal, Barthwal, Hatwal, Dhamnwan, Devarani, Saklani, Raturi, Painyuli, Chandola, Gairola, etc.

The Rajputs form more than 60 per cent of the district population and about 80 per cent of them are Khasa Rajputs who are also known simply as Khasiyas. The principal septs of the Rajputs from the plains are the Panwar, Tanwar, Chauhan, Pundir, Padiyar, Nagvanshi, Chandravanshi, Suryavanshi, Raghuvanshi, Yaduvanshi, Kuruvanshi, Pandir, Vedi, Gujar, Jat, Katoch and Katyur. The ancestors of most of them migrated to the district from the plains at one time or the other as adventurers, refugees, pilgrims or invitees of local chiefs. To the Panwar sept belonged the erstwhile ruling family of Tehri Garhwal, which had held sway over this area for about a thousand years. Persons belonging to this royal family have been categorised variously as Thakur, Rautela and Ghurdura. Most of the other high class Rajputs are generally termed Thokdars. They are usually jealous of their dignity and do not handle the plough, give their daughters in marriage to their inferiors, or accept money for giving their daughters in marriage. They keep their womenfolk in seclusion or purdah. The Khasiyas, who also style themselves Rajuts, do not have these scruples and were not particular about wearing the sacred thread even. For these reasons they have been generally looked down upon by the so called high class Rajputs. The principal subdivisions of the Khasa Rajputs are the Negi, Bisht and Rawat, which names appear to have been derived from the vocations followed by the members of each. *Neg* means

a perquisite and *negi* a receiver thereof, the Negis being generally employed as petty government officials. *Bisht* (probably from Sanskrit *vishishta* meaning distinguished) was originally a title rather than a caste name and the Bishts were generally holders of grants of land from the government. Rawat means a ruler or chief from the Rawat class the higher officials were generally drawn. These terms are often qualified by the names of the places of derivation of the individuals, such as, Kaphola Bisht, Idwal Bisht, Mulani Bisht, Kotya Negi, Chittola Negi. Ghandiyali Rawat, Jawari Rawat, and so on. There are only a few Vaishs in the district who belong chiefly to the Agrawal subcaste, are engaged in trade and business and are generally called Sahus. In spite of the above mentioned caste differences in the Hindu population of the district, caste prejudice are comparatively less strong than among the high caste peoples in the plains.

The Doms (Shilpkars) or members of the Scheduled Castes constitute about 13.6 per cent of the district population. They are supposed to represent the descendants of the aborigines of this area, whom their Khasa conquerors gradually reduced to the status of slavish serfs who were used as agricultural labourers, village artisans, domestic servants and menials. The population of the district depends chiefly on agriculture, but since the villages are situated far apart from one another and the nature of the country is hilly, communication between them is considerably difficult. Each village community, therefore, tended to be self-contained, at least as regards its primarily requirements and most of the hard work fell on the village Doms. These are divided into about 34 occupational groups or subcastes the more important of which are Agari or Lohar (blacksmith), Atpahriya (beater of kettledrum), Auji (tailor), Badi (carpenter), Bajgi (drummer), Beda (singer), Bhat (bard), Chamar (cobbler or shoemaker), Dhunar (boatman or fisherman). Hurkiya (musician), Jhumriya or Dhaki (dancer), Kolai (oilman), Koli (weaver), Kolta (ploughman), Kumhar (potter), Pahri (chowkidar), Ruriya (basket maker) and Tamota (brass and copper smith). Even among the Doms there are higher and lower castes. The Chamar, Bajgi, Badi, Dholi and Hurkiya are endogamous groups while the rest are exogamous, but there is now a tendency towards endogamy even among these. The Doms are usually allotted a separate site in a far corner of or outside the village. Many of them have either no houses or very shabby and unhealthy ones to live in. These Harijans of the district are by and large a landless class and most of them live in perpetual indebtedness. Government is now paying attention to improving their lot by giving them land where posible, making houses for them or improving the existing ones, providing them with drinking water facilities and encouraging literacy and education among them through grant of freeships, scholarships, etc., to Harijan students. Nevertheless, they are still the most backward community socially, educationally and economically. About 99 per cent of them are illiterate.

According to the census of 1961, the tahsilwise distribution of the members of the Scheduled Castes in the district is as follows:

Tahsil		Persons	Male	Female
Tehri	(rural)	13,447	6,830	6,617
	(urban)	275	170	105
Pratapnagar		14,062	6,648	7,414
Devaprayag	(rural)	18,972	9,150	9,822
	(urban)	361	192	169
District Total	..	47,117	22,990	24,127

Muslim—There are 2,151 Muslims (874 males and 1,277 females) in the district. Except a few local converts they are mostly descendants of mediaeval immigrants from the plains, some of whom were employed by the rajas as shikaris and some as cooks for royal Muslim guests. The majority, however, is of Manihars (bangle makers) who are also cultivators and have adopted many of the customs and ways of their Hindu neighbours.

Sikh—The number of the Sikhs is 94 (males 50 and females 44) a majority of whom appears to be from amongst the refugees from West Pakistan. Most of them have settled down in pargana Jaunpur.

Jain—The Jains are 68 in number, there being as many males as females. They have migrated from the plains, and belong to the Digambara sect of Jainism and to the Agarwal subcaste of the Vaishs and are engaged in trade and business.

Buddhist—There are only 25 Buddhists (including 10 females) who appear to be recent immigrants.

Christian—The number of the Christians in the district is only 19 (including 6 females) who seem to be recent or casual settlers.

Religious Beliefs and Practices

Hindu—As many as 99.3 per cent of the population of the district are adherents of popular Hinduism which is a collection of diverse beliefs and practices ranging from animism and polytheism to absolute monotheism which identified the individual soul with the ultimate reality. Orthodox Hinduism of the area does not differ in its essentials from that obtaining in the plains and is practised chiefly by the immigrant Brahmanas, Rajputs and Vaishs who worship the *panch devatas* (the five gods)—Siva, Vishnu, Surya, Ganesa and Shakti (Devi or Durga). The majority of the people is devoted to Siva who is the presiding deity of this region and perhaps has been the favourite indigenous god of the mountain people from times immemorial. Shakti or Devi, Siva's spouse and energy, commands no less devotion. A number of important shrines in the district are dedicated to her. With the Khasas she is, perhaps, the most popular deity and on important occasions, particularly on the one known as **Bagi**

or Athwar, which falls in the month of July, her worship is accompanied by a peculiarly ferocious sacrifice of young he-buffaloes. Although Vishnu, in the form of Badrinath, is much adored and even the raja of Srinagar (later of Tehri) used to be known as Baland Badrinath (the living embodiment of Badrinath), Vaishnavas are few in the district and they mostly belong to the Ramanandi sect. Rama and Krishna, who are considered to be incarnations of Vishnu, are worshipped by the Vaishnavas. There is a temple of Raghunathji at Devaprayag. But Krishna appears to be a more popular deity than Rama. Even Hanuman is, perhaps, better known here than Rama. There are also Jogis of the sect of Gorakhnath, who believe in the Vedanta philosophy and worship Siva. Folk literature and local traditions also bear mark of the great influence which the Nathas and Siddhas once exercised over this region. Besides these, the popular religion of the district includes the worship of a number of godlings, such as the nagas, ghosts, nymphs and spirits. Naga or snake worship is quite popular and the most important naga god is the Nagraj of Mukhem. Nagelo is another naga god and many villages have a nag *tok* (shrine) of their own. The Pandava brothers are also worshipped as gods by the people of the district and their lives and deeds are extolled in many a folk-song and folk dance. Khitarpal (Kshetrapala), also known as Bhumiya, is the presiding deity of land; Ghandiyal and Kaluwavir are probably Yakshas; Narsingha, originally an incarnation of Vishnu, has changed his character under the influence of the Siddhas and Nathas; Bhairu or Bhairava is considered to be an evil spirit; Binsar and Bhansar appear to be demonial (Asura) godlings; Mantris and Achharis (Apsaras) are female spirits; and Goril, supposed to be the ghost of the elder son of a raja of Kumaon, is the most favourite deity of the Doms. It is said that one day Sudarshan Sah (the first raja of Tehri) heard the sound of drumming and dancing in his courtyard. On inquiring the cause he was told that Goril had taken possession of a slave girl. The raja in wrath took up a thick bamboo stick and flourished it so wildly around him that the votaries of Goril declared that the spirit of Goril had released the person possessed and had departed. The raja then formally prohibited the worship of Goril in his kingdom and it is said that now if any person thinks that he is possessed by Goril he has only to utter the name of Sudarshan Sah and the spirit instantaneously departs. The inhabitants of pargana Jaunpur have some additional gods of their own, such as, Mahasu, Pokhu, Pawasi, Bharar, Sherkuriya and Kwarija.

Thus, although communication with the plains and the presence of high caste people from there had a marked influence on the religious feelings and practices of the district, the belief in diverse spirits, malignant or beneficient, is still largely prevalent, especially among the Doms and to a great extent even among the Khasas. Persons known as Pasvas or Vakyas claim to be the mouthpieces of these spirits and are consulted when some-

body is in trouble. The Pasva begins to dance, falls into a fit and in incoherent language declares the cause of the trouble and the name of the godling which should be propitiated in order to get rid of the evil influence. Men and women then assemble by night and the Pasva connected with the particular spirit conducts the ceremony which is called *jagar* and consists of wild singing and dancing to the accompaniment of the beating of drums. During this orgy the spirit is supposed to descend on the Pasva who begins to shiver, makes prophecies and performs what appear to be miracles. The raja, Sudarshan Sah, is said to have tried to stop this witchery as well by consigning to the Ganga a number of such sorcerers with their books. Nevertheless, the practice did not die. Many sorts of *mantras* and *tantras,* known as *onjo-jharo, ukhel-bhed, rakhawali* and *saidwali,* are prevalent. Spirits of mountains, rocks, rivers, streams, forests and fields are also worshipped and propitiated.

The more important of the Hindu holy places, temples and shrines of the district are : the sacred confluences—Devaprayag, Ganeshprayag and Suryaprayag ; the temples of Satyeshwar Mahadeva, Ranganath, Dakshin Kali, Badrinath and Kedarnath at Tehri and the *yantra* of Rajarajeshwari Devi, also at Tehri which is also known as Dhanush Tirth ; the temple of Raghunathji at Devaprayag where many other sacred shrines, tanks and sites dedicated to various gods and goddesses exist and which is perhaps the most important place of pilgrimage in the district ; Koteshwar Mahadeva on the bank of the Bhagirathi in *patti* Bharpur (pargana Narendra Nagar), the lingam here having a circumference of about 8 metres ; Kilkileshwar Mahadeva in *patti* Chauras (pargana Kirti Nagar) ; Burha Kedar in *patti* Thati Kathud (pargana Chilla) ; Nagraj at Mukhem (*patti* Ramoli, pargana Pratapnagar) ; temple of Vasudeva at Bangar (pargana Bhardar) ; the Bhairava of Basar (pargana Chilla) ; Bhagwati Chandrabadni (in patti Khas of pargana Chandrabadni) ; Kubjavari Devi of Kubjapuri (3 km. north of Tapoban) ; Sureshwari Devi in *patti* Bamund (pargana Narendra Nagar) ; Bhuvaneshvari Devi (pargana Chilla) ; and Rajeshwari Devi in *patti* Chauras (pargana Kirti Nagar). Most of the rivers like the Bhagirathi, Alaknanda, Mandakini, Yamuna, Bhillangana (Bhilla-ganga), Dharmganga and Balganga (Balakhilla-ganga), which flow in the district have great sanctity attached to them. Similar is the case with certain peaks like Sri Kantha, Dasharathachal and Hanuman Tibba. Muni-ki-Reti in the district is an important cultural and religious centre.

Muslim—The Muslims of the district belong mostly to the Sunni sect, but are not very orthodox and differ little from their Hindu neighbours in point of superstitions, customs and manners.

Others—The Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Christians are in too small a number each in the district to deserve separate mention of their beliefs and practices which are not different from those followed by their coreligionists elsewhere.

Festivals and Fairs

Hindu—The Hindu population of the district celebrates almost all the principal Hindu festivals, though with local modifications. Special significance, is, however, attached to Rakshabandhan, Dasahra, Diwali, Makar Sankranti and Sivaratri. On the occasion of Rakshabandhan the Brahmanas tie *rakhis* (protective threads) round the wrists of their *yajmans* (patrons) and give them the sacred thread (*yajnopavita*) to change for the older one; in return they get money presents (*dakshina*) from them. At Dasahra people put ears of green barley on their heads and worship Durga (Devi) usually by sacrificing buffaloes and goats. Diwali is celebrated by illuminating houses with oil lamps and kindled pine wood, and the worship of the goddess Lakshmi. The Makar Sankranti (January 14) is an occasion of general bathing in the rivers, particularly at the holy confluences where big fairs are held. After the sacred dip people go to worship in the temples and give alms to the Brahmanas. Sivaratri is celebrated by keeping fast and worshipping Siva. Practically at every festival housewives cook *puris* and *pakoras* of *urd* (a pulse) which they distribute among friends and neighbours, the practice being considered auspicious. Fairs, locally known as *thaulus*, play an important part in the life of the people and provide to them, besides religious satisfaction, an opportunity for amusement and recreation. More than a dozen fairs are held at different times in the year and in different localities of the district, but few of them are of universal importance. That at Mukhem, which takes place once in every three years, is attended by people coming from all over the district and even from outside it. The Makar Sankranti fair at Tehri also attracts large crowds and is, perhaps, the greatest of the bathing fairs of the district. The Visu or Vishuvat Sankranti is also an occasion for bathing fairs but of a lesser importance. Manu is the fishing fair and is very popular in pargana Jaunpur. In the month of Agrahayana (November-December) a big fair is held at Burha Kedar.

Others—The other religious communities of the district are each so small that the celebration of their particular festivals attracts practically no attention. The Muslims celebrate the two Ids, Barawafat, Muharram and Shabibarat; the Sikhs the birthdays of their Gurus, Nanak and Govind Singh; the Jains the Paryushana (last 10 days of Bhadra) and the birthday of the *tirthankara* Mahavira; and Buddhists the Buddha-Purnima; and the Christians the Christmas and the Easter.

Social Life

Property and Inheritance

The laws governing succession and inheritance to property in this district are the same as elsewhere in the State of U. P., the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, being applicable to the Hindus (including Sikhs and Jains). Succession and inheritance among the Muslims are governed by their personal law and among the Christians by the Indian Succession Act,

1925. In practice, however, certain local customs, traditions and usages, which are not in keeping with the provisions of the Hindu Succession Act obtain in this area and regulate succession and inheritance, particularly among the Khasas and the Doms. If a man has more sons than one, they divide their inheritance on their father's death, but the eldest son gets a share bigger than that of each of the younger ones and the custom is known as Jithaul. When a man dies issueless his widow steps into his shoes and inherits equally with her brothers-in-law, but only if she does not remarry or become loose in character. The widow of a landholder becomes for all practical purposes the owner of her deceased husband's property, only she cannot dispose of any part of it by sale. In pargana Jaunpur a widow sometimes keeps a man who lives with her as her husband and is known as her Kathala, but he has no right over her property. Her male issues by him inherit the property. In case a man has more wives than one, his property is often divided among the wives in his own lifetime and after his death partition among his children is made *per stirpes* and not *per capita*, the children of each wife dividing among themselves their mother's share. This practice, obviously a consequence of polygamy, is known as Sautiabant. A man having a daughter and no son usually marries her to a person who agrees to live with him (the father-in-law). Such a son-in-law is called a Ghar-jawain, and he and his wife together inherit the property of the wife's father. But, if the daughter goes away from her father's house to live with her husband at her father-in-law's house both of them lose the right to her father's property which then devolves upon his *sapindas*. Sometimes, particularly in pargana Jaunpur, when the Ghar-jawain goes away from his father-in-law's house to live with his own father or brothers and inherits his father's property, the abandoned wife remains at her father's house and inherits his property by remarrying or by keeping a Kathala (man kept as husband) to produce children by him. The pattern of the family in the district is mostly patriarchal and joint, although now there is a tendency towards breaking up the joint family under the impact of changing social and economic conditions and the growing individualistic outlook of younger people. Most of the people of the district depend upon agriculture, but there is not sufficient land to meet the requirements of the growing population. Hence many youngmen leave their homes and go out in search of better employment. Opportunities and scope of employment in various fields have also considerably widened. The result is that many a time no sooner a youngman gets married than he goes out of the family of his father or brothers and makes a separate home for himself and his wife.

Marriage and Morals

According to the enumeration of 1961, there are 1,57,909 males and 1,89,827 females in the population of the district. Their distribution among the unmarried, married, widowed and divorced or separated, with

reference to different age-groups, is given in the following statement :

Age-group	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced or separated		Unspecified	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—09	46,905	47,825	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10—14	16,701	17,845	221	1,509	1	6	1	4	11	5
15—19	8,687	2,922	3,038	14,681	4	80	4	18	3	11
20—24	3,688	177	7,138	17,415	44	235	17	21	3	14
25—29	1,135	37	10,184	14,633	105	466	32	36	8	8
30—34	504	31	10,558	12,672	252	838	22	28	9	11
35—39	265	9	8,089	9,754	214	1,159	26	29	5	1
40—44	179	8	7,743	8,533	328	1,933	14	35	3	4
45—49	148	3	7,153	6,232	451	2,464	33	31	7	3
50—54	124	6	7,030	5,156	716	3,889	23	32	6	2
55—59	80	7	4,776	2,693	630	3,065	13	21	1	1
60—64	39	6	3,973	1,705	901	4,243	16	11	1	2
65—69	28	..	1,976	603	590	2,409	2	4	4	..
70 and above ..	30	7	1,946	392	1,049	3,841	8	4	..	..
Age not stated ..	7	6	6	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	78,520	68,889	73,831	95,980	5,286	24,628	211	268	61	62

Thus out of the total population of the district 42.4 per cent were unmarried, 48.8 per cent were married, 8.6 per cent were widowed and .14 per cent were divorced or separated. The corresponding percentages among the males were 49.7, 46.3, 3.3 and .13 respectively, and those among the females were 36.3, 50.5, 12.9 and .14 respectively. Of the married males 78.4 per cent were in the age-group 20-45, those under 20 being only 4.4 per cent and those above 55 about 17.2 per cent. The largest percentage of married females, that is, 92.8, was in the age-group 15-54, those under 15 being 1.5 per cent and those above 55 about 5.7 per cent. Above the age of 35 only 1.1 per cent of the unmarried males and .06 per cent of the unmarried females remained unmarried. There are no married, widowed and divorced or separated persons under the age of 9. But there are 221 males and 1,509 females under the age of 15 who are married, which shows that early or child marriage, particularly among the girls, is prevalent in the district. The total female population of the district is more than its male population by 31,917 and that of the married females is greater than the population of married males by 22,144, from which it is evident that a number of men in the district must each have had more than one wife at a time and that polygamy is still prevalent there to a certain extent. The number of widowed females is more than four times that of widowed males and it indicates that there are still many widows who do not like to remarry.

Among the Hindus marriage is considered to be a sacrament and is celebrated by performing rites prescribed, by the *Dharmashastras,* though in practice customs and traditions, which vary from caste to caste and sometimes from family to family within a caste or subcaste, play a great part in regulating the marriage ceremony.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which prescribes the minimum age for marriage as 18 for the bridegroom and 15 for the bride, prohibits polygamy and polyandry and permits inter-caste marriages and even those between persons of the same *gotra,* early marriage, polygamy and polyandry are still prevalent in the district.

The preponderance of females over males, even among married persons, implies polygamy. Among the Khasas and the Doms wives are almost always bought and money, known as bride's price, is paid by the bridegrooms to the bride's father or nearest male relative, which makes polygamy a fairly expensive luxury. But, on the other hand, a wife has considerable economic usefulness. Females of the family do, besides domestic chores, all the field work except the actual ploughing. They sow, weed and reap and between harvests are fully employed in carrying fuel and fodder from the neighbouring hills. In the *pattis* of pargana Udaipur the sale of girls was made simply for monetary considerations even without care being exercised to enquire the status and caste of the groom who was many a time a plainsman and purchased the girl for making her a prostitute or

a concubine. In such cases circumambulation around the sacred fire (*bhanwar*) was omitted from the ceremony which consisted almost entirely of Ganesa puja. The practice has, however, greatly declined now. Polyandry is now confined only to the villages of pargana Jaunpur where when the eldest brother marries, his wife is regarded as the wife of his younger brothers as well. In case these younger brothers are minor at the time of the marriage they became her husbands on becoming adolescents. Even if the younger brother or brothers marry another wife or wives, all the wives, both of the elder and the younger ones, are considered to be the wives of all of them. The children by these wives are also considered to be the children of all the brothers without discrimination and they call them their elder father, middle (*majhla*) father, younger father, etc. Among Khasas who do not practise polyandry, levirate is generally prevalent and after the death of the husband the widow is usually appropriated by his brother. No ceremony is necessary and the children by the latter are no less legitimate, unless the couple live apart. If there is no surviving brother, a cousin or other near relative of the deceased husband takes over the widow. But, instead of doing so she may keep a Kathala or Tekwa to look after her and her property, and her children by him are also considered legitimate, that is, as being those of her late husband. In fact, marriage among the Khasas is rather secular and contractual. Those of them who emulate the high caste Brahmanas and Rajputs and have also attained some social eminence try to adopt the marriage pattern followed by these people.

The usual practice is to marry within the caste and except among certain groups of the doms, endogamy is the rule. However, inter-sub-caste and even inter-caste marriages are not uncommon. Among the higher castes the form of the ceremony is almost the same as elsewhere among their caste peoples and consists of the traditional betrothal, marriage procession, circumambulation around the sacred fire, tying the wedding knot, feasting and departure of the bridegroom with the bride and his party for his home. Marriage is usually arranged by the parents of both the parties. Among the Khasas and the Scheduled Castes the payment of bride's price by the groom is common, and a *dhanti* (woman kept as wife) is also for all practical purposes considered a wife. Marriage ceremony among the Shudras (Scheduled Castes) is not so elaborate as among the higher castes and simply eating and drinking together on the occasion marks the ceremony as accomplished.

The Muslims perform their marriages according to their personal law and the Christians under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended in 1952.

Dowry—The giving and accepting of dowry has now been made illegal by the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, but the practice still persists in the district, particularly among the high castes, as elsewhere, although not in

the undesirable forms prevalent in the plains. Parents give dowry in the form of clothes, ornaments and household effects, at the time of their daughters' marriage, but they do so of their own free will and in accordance with their status and financial condition. The Khasas and Doms on the other hand, charge money as bride's price from the bridegroom himself.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for the performance and registration of marriage by a marriage officer appointed by the government in the district for this purpose. Caste or religion are no bar to such marriages, nor are any rites or ceremonies necessary. From April 1960 to May 1966 five civil marriages were registered in the district.

Widow Marriage—In spite of the Hindu Widow Marriage Act, 1956, which declares widow marriage among Hindus legal the high caste Brahmanas and Rajputs and the Vaishs of the district still persist in their disapproval of such marriages and among them a widow hardly ever remarries. However, among the Khasas and the Doms no social stigma is attached to the marriage of widows. A widow, if she so chooses, may remarry her deceased husband's brother, any other relative or an outsider, take a Kathala, or live as a *dhanti* with somebody.

Divorce—Although the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, provides for divorce or dissolution of marriage, no such cases are known to have come before the court in the district in the recent past. At the census of 1961, however, 211 males and 268 females were recorded here as being divorced or separated, but it is not known how many of them, if any, were divorced or separated through court.

Prostitution and Traffic in Women—In this district there have been no prosecution for prostitution and for traffic in women in recent years, nor is there any centre here where such activities are carried on.

Gambling—Gambling is not unknown in the district but is only indulged in occasionally as a sort of harmless pastime and does not assume illegal proportions. At least there has been no prosecution in the district, under the different laws relating to gambling, during the past 5 years.

Home-life

According to the census of 1961, out of the total population of 3,47,736 in the district only 351 persons (316 males and 35 females) were 'houseless' and 1,432 persons (1,205 males and 227 females) constituted the 'institutional population'. The rest of the population consisted of households* living in 73,382 residential or occupied houses. Of these 71,551 houses were in the rural area and 1,831 in the urban area, the tahsilwise breakup being—Tehri 20,064, Pratapnagar 20,929 and Devaprayag 32,389. The number of persons per occupied house comes to above 4.7, when the

*As per census definition, a household is a group of persons who commonly live together and take their meals from a common kitchen

State average is 6. The percentage of households to the number of houses is 101.1, which is the lowest among the districts of the State. The density of households per square mile is 42.5, which is 41.9 in the rural area and 110.5 in the urban.

Houses—There are only 3 towns (Tehri, Narendra Nagar and Devaprayag) in the district, in which only 2.18 per cent of the population resides and the remaining population lives in villages. Among these, too, 96.6 per cent of the villages are of small size, with less than 500 inhabitants each, and they are occupied by 87.4 per cent of the total population. The place with the biggest population in the district is the town of Tehri, which has a population of 4,508 persons. The more inhabited parts of the district are the central and the southern ones and villages are generally found situated in river valleys and to a lesser extent on level pieces of ground on mountain slopes. The site chosen is usually an airy spur halfway up the hill. In the colder regions of the district houses are built from 3 to 4 storeys high, the walls are made of stone or wood and the roof is covered with planks of deodar. The ground floor is known as *obra*, the first floor as *manjula*, the second as *bond* and the uppermost as *warud*. In the warmer southern parts houses are mostly double-storeyed, the lower being known as *obra* and the upper as *bond*. The former is used for housing the cattle and for storing fodder and fuel and in the latter (*bond*) the members of the family live. These houses are usually roofed with slate which is easily obtained from the quarries in the nearby hills. There are practically no windows in the houses and the doors are so low that one has to bend to enter them. For purposes of ventilation and for the smoke to escape a hole is made in the roof which can be closed when necessary. For storing grain a *kuthar* is constructed in the courtyard in front of the house. One end of an iron chain, with small brass bells tied to it, fixed in the *kuthar* and the other inside the house, a device to warn the inmates when a thief tries to pilfer grain from the store. The courtyard is paved with stone and here the reaped harvest is brought from the fields and heaped. Sometimes for the sake of convenience a *chhan* (cattle shed), with walls of stone and a thatched roof, is constructed away from the village. One of the family or a servant lives there to look after the cattle. The Doms and other poor people live in small shabby huts with thatched roofs. Palaces and other buildings constructed by the rajas are well built, spacious, generally of modern designs and stand on picturesque sites. Other modern cement concrete structures are also now to be seen here and there, particularly in the towns. Narendra Nagar was founded and built only about forty years ago.

Furniture and Decoration—Residences of ex-rulers, government offices, institutions, and the dwellings of higher government officials and of a few well-to-do inhabitants may be said to be well furnished with modern amenities, furniture and decorations. But, the living standard of the common

people is low. They are poor, simple village folk and have in their houses little by way of furniture and decoration except perhaps a *takht*, one or two wooden stools, sitting planks, mats or mattings, a few ordinary cheap pictures, mostly religious, and clay or wooden toys.

Food—Although except the Vaishs and the more orthodox of the Brahmanas the inhabitants of this district are by and large non-vegetarians, meat is not their staple food. Those who can afford eat wheat and rice, but in general the people subsist on *mandua* (a coarse grain), small millets like *jhangora*, certain pulses like *bhat* and *gahat*, potatoes and local vegetables. Pumpkins are cut into chips which are dried in the sun and then ground into flour to be used as food. Fish is usually eaten by the inhabitants of riparian villages. Meat-eaters prefer the flesh of the short-tailed sheep and goat. The region is full of game and those who are fond of hunting kill pigs, pheasants and other animals and birds and eat them. Sacrifice of goats and buffaloes in order to propitiate different deities also encourages the habit of meat-eating. Those who are non-vegetarians usually include spirituous liquors in their drinks. The inhabitants of pargana Jaunpur are, in particular, fond of alcohol and brew in their houses a special liquor, called *soor* (probably a corruption of Sanskrit *sura*, meaning wine), from a mixture of corn and various herbs. In colder areas alcoholic liquors are commonly used at breakfast in the morning and taken by all the members of the family, men, women and children. Tobacco smoking is common and tea drinking is also on the increase.

Dress—Among the educated and urban folk, males usually put on a black cap, coat and pyjamas, and the females wear gaudy coloured saris, full-sleeve tight-fitting bodices (*angia*) and a scarf wrapped around their head like a turban. In pargana Jaunpur men usually wear pyjamas, a cotton jacket (*mirjai*), coat made of cotton or indigenous woollen cloth and a kind of cap known as *do-kali topi*, and the women a loose chintz skirt, bodice or tight blouse and a small turban (*dhanthu*). In the warmer parts of parganas Udaipur and Narendra Nagar the women often replace the skirt by a sari and keep the head bare. In the colder parts of pargana Chilla woollen clothes are more in use and men often wear pagri and the women make skirts of black blanket cloth, the same being the practice in pargana Bhilung and in the *pattis* of Lostu Badiyargarh, Lasya, Silgarh and Badma. In *patti* Nailchami the women wear skirts and *dohares* (double sheets) of thick cloth and in parganas Bhardar and Kirti Nagar cotton clothes are generally used and the women often wear saris, *chadars* (scarfs) and *dohars* (wrappers). Shoes are seldom used by both men and women of the district.

Jewellery—Almost all the women wear a nose pendant (*bulak*) and those who are married consider the wearing of a *nath* (nose-ring) an auspicious necessity, even the Dom women wear the ornament which is made of silver instead of gold. In her ears almost every woman wears

several ear-rings (*balis*), usually made of silver. Around the neck a thick, heavy silver *hansuli* (collar) is worn as also one or more necklaces of silver or coral beads. On the arms and feet thick silver bangles and anklets (*kare*) are put on. The women of pargana Jaunpur are specially fond of gold and silver ornaments and even men wear small golden ear-rings (*murkis*) and silver bangles. The women of Chilla, Bhardar and Silgarh are no less fond of jewellery, but those of Nailchami, Udaipur, Bhilung and Narendra Nagar wear a few ordinary ornaments.

Communal Life

Recreations—The majority of the inhabitants of the district have been leading a hard and simple life and owing to their poverty and the difficulties of communication they have been to a great extent cut off from the outside world. But, for the same reason, they have been able to preserve their local culture and traditions, folk-dances and folk-songs, festivals and fairs and games and recreations which go a long way in relieving the monotony of their life and providing relaxation and amusement to them.

The more notable and popular forms of traditional folk-dance (*nritya*) are those known as the *pandava, kedar, bir, raso* or *tharya, khunkhri, chhopati, ghadiyal, thali, doli, sarav* and *vaddyi*. Most of these dances are collective and performed in groups and are heroic or exciting in spirit. Some express through bodily movements the different actions and emotions centring around some idea, whereas others are based purely on bodily movements without expressing any idea. The theme is generally the exhibition of the lives and deeds of certain gods and goddesses or of ancient heroes like the Pandavas, one or more of the dancers impersonating the particular god, goddess, hero or heroine. In the *doli-nritya* people dance with or around a *doli* (litter) and in the *thali-nritya* they dance with a *thali* (metallic plate) placed on the head. The *sarav* and *vaddyi* are specially popular among the Doms. In the former type of dance two drum-beaters of the Auji subcaste of the Doms stand face to face, each with a drum hanging from his neck, and dance with rhythmic steps beating the drums all the while. The *raso* or *tharya* dance is generally performed in the courtyard of houses, the dancers divide themselves into two parties and dance in circles one inside the other. The *chhopati* is the dance most popular with the young girls of pargana Jaunpur who dance in one group with another formed by youngmen. Singing and dancing characterise almost every festival and marriage ceremony. The month of Magh (January-February) is particularly a period of universal singing and dancing. This month-long festival is known as Maroj, when married girls come to their parents' homes. Provision for food and drink to last for the month is made beforehand in every home and people, young and old, pass the Maroj period gaily singing and dancing together to the accompaniment of the beating of drums, blowing of horns and playing on other indigenous musical instruments. Men and women generally dance

in separate groups. Another traditional feature of the district is the *jatras* or pilgrimages when people go in groups, singing, dancing, beating drums, flying flags and carrying *dolis*, all the way, to the holy shrines particularly of the Devis Kubjavari, Surkhanda and Chandrabadni and of Nagraj at Mukhem. Other local fairs are also attended by singing, dancing, and rejoicing in different ways.

The local folk songs are also about a dozen in variety. The theme is either religion, love or heroism and the songs recite the virtues or deeds of some god or goddess, of the Pandavas or other ancient or historical hero, or narrate some calamity or memorable event. The *jagars* are sung throughout the night in order to worship or propitiate some local deity or spirit, all the persons collected for the purpose remaining awake. The Pawaras are ballads narrating the lives and deeds of heroes, ancient or historical, and particularly relate to battles and wars. Many of them treat of love and are full of pathos. The most pathetic of the songs is the *khudera-khud*, sung by young married girls expressing the poignancy of the separation they feel when removed from their parents or husbands by time and distance. The *bajubands* are sung in duets in the form of dialogues between a lover and his beloved and are of a very romantic nature. the *lamans* and *chhopatis* are also love songs, the former being usually sung in community dances and the latter on the occasion of festivals. The *mangals* are songs sung during a marriage ceremony, the women of the Auji caste specialising in these songs and being called to perform by the family in which a marriage takes place. The *chhura* songs are full of moral teaching based on experiences of life. The information department of the government also arranges for a number of cultural programmes during the year, in order to encourage and preserve the traditional folk-dances and folk-songs of the district.

Among the usual amusement of the rural folk may be mentioned the *bedawart* and *lang* and the ram *khadu*) and buffalo (*jhota*) fights. In the first of these a member of the Beda caste performs acrobatic feats by walking on a long rope the two ends of which are tied fast to two high wooden poles standing sometimes a furlong apart. In the *lang* he dances on the upper end of a standing or moving long bamboo pole. The ram and buffalo fights are very much enjoyed and the spectators put stakes on the animals participating in the fight. The *bhaila* is a sport peculiar to the Diwali festival when people tie a kindled piece of pine wood at the end of a string and whirl it rapidly around them, singing and dancing all the time. As there are no big level grounds the common games and sports of the district are such as do not require much space and among them *kabaddi, gulli-danda, ringapati* and *chhopatti* may be mentioned. People have now begun to play volley-ball as well. In the urban areas football, volley-ball and badminton are becoming the fashion. There are in the district several institutions and clubs, like the District Sports Committee,

the Tehri Garhwal Club, Alok Club, Gymkhana Club and Raghunath Club, which promote modern games and sports and organise matches and tournaments, chief of which are the Cariappa Football Tournament, Tehri, the Gymkhana Volley-ball Tournament, Narendra Nagar, and the Sher Singh Volley-ball Match, Narendra Nagar.

There is no regular cinema house in the district, except only a make-shift one at Tehri. The number of private radio sets in the district is not known but community listening sets numbered 199. The information department in the district occasionally holds in different localities documentary film shows, puppet shows, dramatic performances and other cultural or recreational programmes. *Kisan-melas* (peasant fairs) and development exhibitions are also held in different parts of the district annually. People on their own also arrange open air performances like pandavalila, Krishna-lila and Ramlila.

Besides, there are in the district 240 Yuvak Mangal Dals (youth clubs) with a membership of 1,392, which arrange programmes for the instruction and recreation of the people. A Gramin Swayam-Sewak Dal (village volunteer corps) has been organised and several Mahila Kalyan Kendras (women welfare centres), Shishu Kalyan Kendras (child welfare centres) and Samaj Kalyan Kendras (social welfare centres) have also been established in the district, which, among other things, provide means and facilities for amusement and recreation to men, women and children here.

सत्यमेव जयते

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Land Reclamation and Utilisation

Being in the Himalayan region and interspersed with high mountains and numerous shallow streams, the district has no extensive level tracts for purposes of mechanised cultivation. Finer soils are only to be found in the river valleys where they widen out. Through the centuries, the people have carved out terraces (which rise one above the other) on the hill sides wherever the terrain has been found to be arable and used such flat strips for cultivation. The old practice of cutting and burning the shrubs and bushes in certain areas, using such patches for raising crops for a year or two and then letting these remain fallow for a number of years to let shrubs and bushes grow up again therein and repeating the cycle is almost extinct now as this practice was found to be very injurious to the soil in the long run. This type of sporadic activity was called *katil* cultivation.

According to the census of 1961, the total number of agricultural workers in the district was 2,08,726 (or 60.0 per cent of the total population). Of these, 2,08,053 were actual cultivators, the remaining 673 being landless labourers. The number of persons engaged in forestry, mining, quarrying, fishing, hunting, plantations, etc., was only 1,631.

A large portion of the district is covered with perpetual snows and has no distinct agronomic value. Some parts are too craggy and precipitous for cultivation while some tracts lie above levels at which the cultivation of land cannot be economic. Then there are extensive areas covered with forests or are reserved for forestry. Detailed and accurate agricultural statistics are not available for this mountainous district as it has large areas that are inaccessible. Only approximate figures of those areas that are arable and of those that are actually cultivated can be had.

On account of the increasing population and the resultant pressure on land, the need for more food-grains has extended the cultivation even to those hill sides which, in the past, could not be reclaimed, terraced and cultivated. Although cultivation of a straggling nature has been extended almost to its full limits, the demand for *nayabad* (literally 'new cultivation' or 'land hitherto uncultivated') is ever increasing.

Along with agricultural pursuits, horticulture which is also quite profitable, is one of the major occupations of the people and efforts are being made to increase production of food by introducing scientific methods of cultivation in plantations and orchards.

In the year 1960, the cultivated land in the district was 52,266 hectares, the double-cropped area 34,210 hectares, current fallow 570 hectares, old fallow 1,210 hectares, cultivable land 15,363 hectares, other arable land not utilised for cultivation 12,090 hectares, barren and uncultivable land 61,575 hectares, pastures and grazing lands 16,505 hectares, forests 2,79,436 hectares and land under orchards and plantations 2,159 hectares. According to the Settlement of 1965, nearly 65 per cent of the total area is covered with forests; 20 per cent area consists of mountains, rivers, etc., and only 15 per cent of the land is available for cultivation purposes. The average size of land-holding for the district is only .6075 hectares per tenure holder. During a period of about three decades, the cultivated area in the district went up by more than 58 per cent which amply indicates the pressure on land and the need to bring new lands under the plough.

In the Settlement of 1924, only the cultivated area (25,05,697 *nalis* and 11 *mutthis*=50,740 hectares approx.) was measured and other types of land were left unmeasured. In the Settlement of 1965, both the cultivated and uncultivated areas were measured. the total being 88,35,962 *nalis* and 8 *mutthis* (1 *nali*=$^1/_{80}$ acres=.02025 hectare) of which the cultivated area was 39,67,982 *nalis* and 8 *mutthis* and the rest was uncultivated land. The latter included culturable waste; barren land covered with bushes, jungles and civil forests; land occupied by habitation sites, roads, buildings, burial grounds, water, etc. Separate figures for each type of land are not available. The land which was left unmeasured during the Settlement of 1965 included the areas covered with perpetual snows and those forests which are under the control of the forest department.

Culturable Land, Waste Land and Precarious Tracts

Figures for the area of culturable land in the district are not available. In the past, the unassessed area was classed as old fallow (fallow land of more than 3 years' standing), culturable waste and unculturable waste. Land which was previously measured but was found to be out of cultivation at the time of the settlement was termed *benap* (unmeasured) and including land under forests, pastures and grazing grounds.

Large portions of waste land have, for centuries, been taken to be parts of the adjacent villages but not actually included in their recorded area. Now there is little land of this type remaining unclaimed. Almost all such tracts which have an elevation exceeding 2,400 m. are generally taken to be unfit for cultivation and suitable only as pastures.

The type of agriculture practised in the district depends on the elevation of land from the sea-level, nature of soil and climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and snowfall. The position of the fields in relation to sunshine and the availability of irrigation facilities also determine the

success or otherwise of agricultural operations. Usually, cultivation can be done up to an altitude of 2,000 m., but *chuwa* (a species of amarnath) and wheat can be grown at heights up to 2,500 m. Fields on the shady sides of hills, especially if bordered by forests, have thicker and richer soil and retain moisture better than when these are on the sunny sides. The areas situated on the northern sides in the great chain of Himalayan peaks are all, in some degree, subject to the influence of snows and shade. In these parts, people place little reliance on products of the soil as a means of livelihood because there is only one harvest in the year. The crops are damaged wholesale in the years when snowfall begins too early (in October). The surface of the land is also encumbered with stones and boulders. Severity of the winters, which are usually attended by heavy snows in places of high altitude and the need for large quantities of manure render cultivation a hazardous undertaking in such areas. People in the northernmost areas depend largely for their needs of food-grains on the middle and southern parts where the rigours of climate, the barrenness of the soil and the impracticability of cultivation are not so pronounced. Sometimes, the shortage of food in the northern regions of the district has to be faced by the people who have to content themselves with *chuwa* leaves, boiled with grain and flour made out of dried pumpkin.

Irrigation

Besides altitude, soil and other climatic factors, cultivation in the hills depends to a large extent on the availability of irrigation facilities. At the time of the settlement of 1924, the irrigated area in the district was 2,65,122 *nalis* and 3 *mutthis*, and the unirrigated area 22,40,575 *nalis* and 8 *mutthis*. According to the Settlement of 1965, the irrigated area in the district rose to 4,85,926 *nalis* and 7 *mutthis*, the unirrigated area being 34,79,653 *nalis* and one *mutthi*, the increase in the irrigated area amounting to about 83 per cent since the Settlement of 1924.

Sources of Water-supply

Rainfall provides the major source of water for irrigation. It lasts usually from June to September and the district normally receives an annual average rainfall of about 1,250 mm. Rain water, however, hardly stays in the fields because of the hilly nature of most cultivated land and the top soil generally does not retain moisture for long on account of the sloping nature of the terrain. As a result, the rains, though in abundance, do not adequately satisfy the irrigational requirements of the district except in flat valleys and the cultivators have to depend largely on artificial means for irrigation.

Rivers and Rivulets—The district abounds in big and small rivers which provide irrigation. In comparison with big rivers, the smaller ones are generally more useful for this purpose because the big rivers flow in

deep valleys and their water cannot be lifted for irrigation except by power-driven devices. The small rivulets mostly dry out in the season when water is most needed for irrigating fields but even so these still constitute an important source of water-supply. Water is carried to the fields through *guls* (channels), cut along the contour of the land-surface. The length of the *gul* varies according to the height of the field to be irrigated and the course and water-contest of such streams. The headwork consists of a small temporary dam laid across the stream by which water is canalised into the *gul*. As the channel of the stream is scoured deeper and deeper by the annual rains, it becomes necessary to raise the height of the dam and, finally, to make a new headwork higher up the stream. These *guls* are also used to run *gharats* (water-mills) and the amount of water in a stream or *gul* is generally estimated according to the number of *gharats* it is capable of turning. Thus *do nal* or *do gharat ka pani* means a stream or *gul* which has the capacity to turn two *gharats* (water-mills).

Minor Irrigation Schemes

After the merger of the erstwhile state in Uttar Pradesh in 1949, construction of *guls* and small reservoirs was taken up under the Grow More Food Scheme and, up to the end of the First Five-year Plan, nearly 280 *guls* and reservoirs were constructed in the district. The achievements during the Second and the Third Five-year Plans in the district are given below:

Scheme	Second plan period	Third plan period
Reservoirs (Nos.)	223	711
Guls (Km.)	833.64	671.0

During the Third Plan period, a total amount of Rs 15,24,455 was advanced as loans to cultivators for the construction of reservoirs and *guls*. In 1966-67, a sum of Rs 11,20,000 was given for minor irrigation schemes and 169 reservoirs and 76 km. of *guls* were constructed in the district in that year.

Irrigation Schemes

The irrigation department undertook the implementation of various irrigation schemes in the district since 1950. In the First Plan period, 6.5 km. long Ranihat minor canal was constructed. In the second Plan period, 11 canals costing Rs 13,43,000 at Kemar, Doban Sarot, Lashmoli, Malaitha, Hatwalgaon, Majhgaon, Almas, Sainj, Bagwan, Basar and Panjana Dharkot, totalling a length of 48.2 km., were constructed. In the Third Plan period, three canals costing Rs 5,94,000 at Chham, Poni and Toneta, totalling 19.31 km. in length, were constructed.

The Fourth Plan schemes of the district provide for construction of 9 big and 4 smaller canals of a total length of 67.6 km. at a cost of Rs 31,84,000 and of three water-pumping stations at Athur, Chauras and Ghildiyal Gaon at a cost of Rs 6,69,000.

The total irrigated area in the district at the end of the Second Plan was 7,780 hectares which rose to 9,507 hectares at the end of the Third Plan but this was still only 17.13 per cent of the total cultivated area in the district. The Fourth Plan schemes for irrigation are expected to extend irrigation facilities to another, 3,645 hectares in the district.

Soil Conservation and Flood Control Schemes

The tract is mostly hilly and is very susceptible to the ravages of soil erosion, caused by floods and heavy rainfall. Soil conservation work has been taken up to protect some 1,01,171 hectares of affected land since the start of the Second Five-year Plan. There is a soil conservation officer posted in the district since 1958 to look after this programme. The community development blocks, irrigation department and forest department also execute their departmental soil conservation and flood control schemes. At present soil conservation schemes are being executed in Chamba, Tholdhar, Bhillangana and Devaprayag development blocks of the district which are annually affected by the Bhagirathi, the Bhillangana and the Alaknanda rivers. These schemes consist of *mendbandi*, levelling, contour-ploughing afforestation and drainage-construction to regulate the flow of excess water. Government renders help to the cultivators in the shape of loans and grants. In the Third Plan period, 80 soil conservation schemes covering an area of 1,497 hectares were undertaken by the government and a sum of Rs 7,43,000 was given to the cultivators as loans and grants to take up works for the conservation of soil in their own fields. In the year 1967-68, twelve new schemes, covering some 243 hectares in the Chamba-Mussoorie fruit belt, were taken up in the district. Of these, work was completed in 104 hectares and a sum of Rs 75,000 was given to the cultivators as loans and grants for soil conservation activities in 1967-68. Nailchami and Sera flood protection schemes have been completed by the irrigation department and there are proposals to take up such schemes at Thati, Garkot and Badiyargarh.

Agriculture Including Horticulture

Soils and Lands

The types of soils which are met with in the district are usually the same as are found in the other hilly areas, viz., the gravel sand, sandy loam, clayey loam, heavy clay and calcareous soil. The red, grey, brown and dark brown soils are also found in different parts of the district. Most of the soils are, however, poor in quality, shallow and stony and vary with the character of rocks in the subsoil.

On the basis of their texture, the soils of the district may be divided into three categories—(1) the red soil which is found on the slopes and ridges of the hills and is sandy. When dry, it is greyish and, on becoming moist it becomes reddish; (2) the brown soil is found in the forests and in the fields near them, the colour being brown or dark brown, depending on the quantity of organic matter therein; (3) the *podsol* soil which is clayey loam in texture and is found in generally all the terraced fields.

The Settlement of 1965, has followed the old classification of land in the district into five groups, viz., the *talaon* (irrigated), first class *upraon* (dry), second class *upraon*, *ijran* (inferior terraced land cultivated intermittently) and *katil* or *khil* (inferior unterraced land cultivated intermittently). *Talaon* is further divisible into two classes—*sera*, where the water-supply is perennial, fields are level and soil is alluvial and fertile, and *panchar*, where the water-supply is irregular, fields are not so level being situated on higher elevations and soil is not so fertile as in *sera* lands. Some part of *sera* is also known as *simar* which is usually marshy. Only paddy is grown on it. The *talaon* land contains good fertile alluvial soil and is found, to some extent, in all villages, particularly in the vicinity of the beds of rivers and streams. The sources of irrigation are canals and *guls*. Wheat and paddy are mostly grown in these lands. Cultivation in *upraon* I lands, which are usually situated near the habitation sites, depends primarily on rains. Paddy, wheat, barley, *mandua* and *jhangora* are grown on these lands. *Upraon* II is land generally situated at a distance from the villages and grows only *jhangora* and *mandua* crops. When the rains are good, even wheat is grown in it. *Ijran* lands are found on the high hills and on the slopes. Soil in these lands being very poor, there is only one harvest in every two years. The crops raised are mainly *gabath*, *kota*, *phaphar* and *marsa*. *Katil* (*khil*) lands are found on the slopes of high hills. Such land is full of stones and pebbles and is, thus, the least fertile. Crops are sown only once in three or four years on it.

The following statement gives the areas of the various types of land in the district during the last two Settlements of 1924 and 1965:

Period	Talaon		Upraon I		Upraon II		Ijran/Katil	
	Nali	Mutthi	Nali	Mutthi	Nali	Mitthi	Nali	Mutthi
Settlement of 1924	.. 2,65,122	7	7,82,344	7	12,53,259	1	21,86,037	1
Settlement of 1965	.. 4,72,099	5	13,05,084	1	20,34,110	11	43,869	7

It is clear from the above figures that the area of *talaon* land increased by about 78.6 per cent, *upraon* I by nearly 67 per cent, *upraon* II by about 62.3 per cent and the areas of *ijran* or *katil* land decreased by more than 76 per cent. The reasons for this variation in the area of different

types of land seem to be reclamation of *ijran* or *katil* land for agricultural purposes and improvements made on the fields by the cultivators. The expansion of population in the district and the resultant increase in the pressure on land may also account for the decrease in the area of *ijran* and *katil* lands.

Cultivation

Level land being scarce cultivation is generally done on terraced fields. Continuous ploughing extending over a number of years and hard labour and money are required to make and maintain the terraced fields. Boulders, stones and pebbles are piled up to form walls at the lower edges of the field and excavations are made in the upper part till the whole field becomes comparatively level. This process is not completed in a single season. Usually, a small wall is raised in the first year, the field assuming the shape of a fine terraced field in course of time (taking a number of years) by the action of weather, tilth and diluvion from higher ground. Every year, ploughing removes more stones, improves and strengthens the retaining boundary walls, levels the slopes and makes the crops more remunerative. A lot of time and labour is involved in this operation and even a small neglect results in an overgrowth of thorny bushes, wild berries and other scrub jungle which generally grow quickly and profusely in the hills. Cultivation on *katil* (*khil* land is done intermittently after burning scrub jungle on steep hills. The land is cultivated intermittently and the period of fallow allowed between two harvests is so long that the land, when lying fallow, appears to have been abandoned altogether. This long period of fallow is necessitated for the recuperation of the fertility of the land because these fields are not terraced and suffer much from scouring by the rains, winds and floods. The only manure provided to such fields is the ash of the scrub burnt by cultivators before preparing them for sowing.

To prepare the seed bed, the plot is ploughed, once if coarse Kharif crops like *jhangora* and *mandua* are raised and twice for other crops. For paddy and, sometimes wheat, the clods are broken up after each ploughing by an implement known as *dilara*, resembling a mallet with a long handle. The ground is also smoothed over by an implement, called *jol*, which is like a harrow without teeth. The seed is then sown and the field is levelled and made even. In irrigated land, paddy is usually sown in a seed bed. At the beginning of the rains, after the young plants have attained a height of about six inches, they are transplanted in the fields prepared beforehand. Pepper and at some places *mandua* are also transplanted. When the crops reach the height of a few inches from the ground, the harrow is applied once or twice. Then, until the crops begin to put forth ears, it is regularly weeded with the hoe. The Rabi crops are neither harrowed nor weeded except in clayey soil after the grain has germinated

and heavy rains occur. Then the land is harrowed sometimes to let up the shoots. The crop is cut with a sickle, paddy being cut off close to the root while, in the case of *jhangora* or *mandua,* the ears only are first cut. After the stalks have dried, they are also cut and stored as fodder. Wheat and barley are cut about the middle. On arrival of the sheaves at the threshing floor, the ears are chopped off for threshing while the stalk is given to the cattle. In normal years, what remains on the field is grazed off by cattle or even burnt but, in dry years when grass is scarce, it is carefully collected and preserved as fodder. All such straw is stacked in the trees near the homestead or on poles known as *tailas.* Threshing floors are usually constructed on a ridge where a good current of air may be anticipated. They are commonly paved with stone flags. The grain is trodden out by oxen in the usual way and winnowed by pouring it out of a basket, held high up, on the ground below.

Harvests

As in the plains, the hill areas also produce generally three harvests, the Kharif, the Rabi and the Zaid but, the climate being cooler, the crops require a longer period for gestation. As a result, they are sown earlier and harvested somewhat later than in the plains.

The following statement gives the areas (in hectares) covered by the Rabi, the Kharif and the Zaid crops in the district in the years 1960-61 and 1964-65 :

Year	Rabi	Kharif	Zaid
1960-61	32,585	52,409	Not available
1964-65	36,961	48,241	7,020

Principal Crops

In the Kharif, the main crops grown are paddy, *mandua, kauni, jhangora,* maize, *bhat* and potato. *Chuwa* or *phaphar* in the northern parts of the district is a common crop and, at levels higher than 1,828 m. from above the sea-level, is the only Kharif crop grown. In the lower regions, *tur* (a kind of pulse) takes the place of the *arhar* of the plains which it resembles except that it is sown in March and reaped with the main Kharif crops.

In the Rabi, wheat, barley, *masur,* mustard and rape-seed are the chief crops grown in the district. Generally, the Rabi crops are sown in the months of October-November and the harvesting lasts from the end of April to the middle of May and, even later in the fields situated on higher altitudes. In the still higher snow-covered valleys which are close

to the glaciers, a local species of wheat known as *napal* is grown as a Kharif crop. The seed is sown when the snows begin to melt in May or early June and the harvest is reaped in November. If sown in autumn with the main Rabi crops the *napal* seed does not germinate because of extreme cold.

Other Crops

Other important crops grown in the district are *ugal* (buckwheat) used by the Hindus on fast days, condiments like turmeric, pepper, ginger, and chillies and vegetables like potatoes, cabbages, cauliflowers, *pinalu*, yams, brinjals, pumpkins, asparagus, rhubarb, mint and water-cress.

Hemp often grows wild but is also cultivated at places. From its fibre (*lampha*), ropes and sackcloth are made. It is used as condiment also. Intoxicating material is also obtained from the plant and oil is extracted from its seed.

The following statement gives the area (in hectares) and average yield per hectare (in kilograms) of the principal crops of the district in 1966-67 :

Crop	Area (in hectares)	Yield per hectare in kg.
Wheat	25,398	921.58
Paddy	18,851	1,843.16
Jhangora	17,899	552.96
Mandua	10,200	460.79
Maize	636	921.58
Oil seeds	904	Not available

Improvement of Agriculture

In addition to the irrigation facilities, adoption of improved and modern scientific methods of cultivation is also necessary to raise the agricultural output. With the start of the First Five-year Plan, emphasis was laid on utilisation of improved seeds, use of chemical fertilizers and various pesticides, preparation and utilisation of compost manures and expansion of the area under green manuring. Use of modern agricultural implements is also being popularised by distributing them to the cultivators of the district. Government gives financial assistance to the cultivators to purchase seeds, implements and fertilisers and other appliances for better agricultural production. From 1963-64 to 1967-68 a sum of Rs 1,67,116 was distributed as loan to the cultivators for the purpose. Scientific implemental and manurial demonstrations in the government agricultural farms

and even in the fields of cultivators are held to encourage them to adopt the same. Various other audio-visual aids like cinema shows, slides, radio broadcasts, distribution of educational leaflets, brochures, bulletins and magazines are also pressed into service to popularise modern methods of cultivation among the farmers.

The following statement gives the achievements of some of the major activities connected with agriculture in first three Five-year Plans :

Activity	First Plan period	Second Plan period	Third Plan period
Distribution of improved seeds (Qtls)—			
(*a*) Rabi	1,158.0	4,230·94	4,567.0
(*b*) Kharif	224.25	915.8	2,947.74
(*c*) Potato	105.55	2,007.0	921.24
Distribution of chemical fertilizers (Tonnes) ..	11.34	200.3	1·9071
Demonstratons of improved agricultural practices (Nos.)	1,668	2,989	3,498
Distribution of improved implements	23	180	2,400
Establishment of seed-stores	2	7	10
Establishment of agriculture farms	..	2	..
Establishment of potato farms	..	1	..

Normally, the average annual total production of food-grains in the district is 79,615 tonnes of which wheat constitutes 22,500 tonnes, paddy 32,000 tonnes and other cereals 24,915 tonnes. A target of 8,323 tonnes of additional food-grains was fixed for the Third Plan period but it could not fully be achieved due, largely, to the slowness of the local farmer to take to new ideals. The district is still deficient in regard to food-grains.

The target fixed for the Fourth Plan of the district for growing additional food-grains is about 7,000 tonnes. Nearly a cultivated area of 8,093 hectares is proposed to be covered with the improved seeds of high-yielding varieties, 1,571 hectares are to be sown with green manure crops and 4,047 hectares to be conserved under soil conservation schemes in the district. Nearly 8,148 quintals of improved seeds of cereals, 8,560 tonnes chemical fertilizers and 2,125 improved agricultural implements are proposed to be distributed in the district. Nearly 11,626 hectares are proposed to be sown with paddy according to the Japanese method and 17,192 hectares to be sown with wheat and barley according to the U. P. method of wheat and barley cultivation during the Fourth Plan.

Rotation of Crops and Fallowing

The value of crop-rotation in retarding the exhaustion of the soil is a fact so familiar to agriculture that it has not been overlooked by the hillmen also, whose methods are the result of many centuries of experience. In any land on which two harvests are gathered in a year, some sort of rotation is a matter of necessity but, in the hills, a simple rotation is not possible because, in most fields, the early autumn crops have to be sown before the spring crops are ripe. Here, the standard practice is a two-year rotation of rice, wheat and *mandua*. Rice is sown in April and reaped in September. It is followed by wheat sown in October and harvested in April. Then *mandua* is sown and reaped in October after which the field remains fallow till April next. For this rotation, fields are usually divided into two parts. Rice is grown in one half and *mandua* in the other half. The half in which rice is sown is known as the *satyara* and that in which *mandua* is sown is known as *kodara*. In the winter, *kodara* is left fallow while, in the *satyara*, wheat is sown and is called *gyunwara* and, subsequently, when *mandua* follows the wheat, it becomes the *kodara* while the *kodara* of previous year becomes the *satyara*.

The practice of leaving fallow a whole block of land instead of scattered fields here and there has its advantage as the cattle are turned loose in such blocks to graze on the remnants of straw and grass that can be found on the terrace-walls. For this reason, most of the fields are found apparently lying as waste lands in winter. In the fields which are too stony to grow rice or wheat, *jhangora* or barley are sown.

The above rotation is practically confined to unirrigated land or to land which has poor irrigation facilities. The irrigated land, lying as it usually does in a valley, enjoys the warmest climate in the village. Moreover, there is no risk even if the crop is sown somewhat late as it is protected by irrigation against any damage which might be done to late paddy by an early cessation of the rains. The harvesting of paddy begins at the top of the hills and proceeds downwards, whereas the harvesting of the spring crop proceeds in the opposite direction. For these reasons, it is always possible to grow two crops, one of paddy and the other of wheat in the year. As paddy is a deep-rooted crop and wheat a short-rooted one and as the process of irrigation in itself constitutes a dressing of the land, this rotation leaves little to be desired.

Another two-crop rotation is that of *chuwa* and barley. This is much in vogue in the northern villages, specially in fields located near the homesteads and regularly enriched with manure. In the southern areas, there is a similar rotation with *ugal* being substituted for *chuwa* but it is confined only to the outlying lands. *Ugal* is said to have the merit of not being injured by the mists which, during rains, settle on top of the hills. In the higher villages of the north where barley does not ripen till May

or June, double-cropping becomes impossible and the rotation then practised in *chuwa* (April to September), followed by barley (October to June) followed by mustard (August to December). The land then remains fallow till April when *chuwa* is again sown.

The standard rotation for outlying lands which are too far from the village to be manured in the ordinary way is wheat or barley being sown in the autumn and reaped in the following spring, followed by *mandua* after which the land is allowed to remain fallow during the winter. In the succeeding summer, a crop of *jhangora* is raised. The land then remains fallow for three years when the same process is repeated. It is known as *tesali*. The vegetation which springs up during the fallow years is sometimes burnt and sometimes ploughed in. The rotation is sometimes lengthened in unterraced and *katil* lands by adding *gahat* or *ugal* in the third year and prolonging the fallow to six years or, in some cases, up to nine years.

Land is left fallow only in the fields in the upland areas in Rabi for a period of 4 to 5 months and early paddy is sown in those fields in March. On account of the increasing population and scarcity of food-grains, the practice of leaving fields fallow is gradually being abandoned and, instead the rotation of crops and mixed-cropping are being adopted increasingly. Cultivators have also come to realise the advantage of raising quick-growing leguminous crops like soyabean, *mung, lobia* etc., during the fallow period which, besides giving food and fodder, also add to the fertility of the soil by providing good quality green-manure.

Mixed Cultivation—Growing more than one kind of crop over the same piece of land in a single season gives an additional yield even in small holdings. Unfavourable weather conditions, pests and diseases usually affect only one of the two or more crops which are sown mixed in the same field. *Mandua* is generally mixed with soyabean, *urd* and *chuwa* and wheat and barley are sown mixed with mustard, *masur*, pea or linseed.

Horticulture

Fruits—In this districts, the fields are small and usually lack irrigation facilities. However, the conditions are more suitable for horticulture. With varying climate, soils and altitude, all kinds of fruits and vegetables which are produced in the hot as well as cold climates can be grown here. The government has, therefore, introduced several schemes for the development of horticulture in this district. Before the merger of the erstwhile state in the U. P., there were a few fruit orchards owned by the state but, subsequently, horticultural activities have shown an upward trend.

Fruits grown both in the tropical and temperate climates are produced in the district, the former in the valleys and areas with a maximum altitude of 1,219 m. and the latter in the areas having an altitude above 1,524 m.

Of the fruits of the temperate climate apple, apricot, pear, peach, plum, cherry, chestnut, walnut, etc., and among the tropical fruits, mango, guava, papaya, banana, jack-fruit, pomegranate, etc., are grown here. Citrus fruits like lemon, orange, malta, etc., are also grown. Among vegetables, potato, onion, pumpkin, gourd, ladys' finger, brinjal, etc., are grown.

Among fruit trees, *chulu*, *adu* (peach) and *aloobukhara* (plum) trees are found at heights between 914 m. and 1,828 m. The seed of *chulu* provides edible oil. *Khumani* is found mostly in Jaunpur pargana and is marketed outside the district mostly at Mussoorie in Dehra Dun district. Walnut and pomegranate trees are found mostly at heights between 1,219 m. and 1,828 m. Large citrus fruits are also grown in such areas and these provide pickles and katchups. Small size oranges are grown mostly in *pattis* Karakot and Chandrabadni. Banana is grown extensively in Bhandar pargana. Mango, litchi, *lukat*, guava, pear, *jamun*, pomegranate, lemon, grape-fruit, *kathal* and mulberry trees existing in and around Tehri town still bear fruit and the varieties of mango and litchi grown at Tehri are well reputed.

Apples, pears and apricots grown well in Pratapnagar and Manjaf areas. Kaudiya, Kanatal, Dhanolti and Magra areas are known to produce apple, pears, peaches, apricots, figs, chestnuts and cherries in fairly large quantities. Recently, large-scale apple plantations have been attempted on the ridge leading from Chamba in the district to Mussoorie in Dehra Dun district. With the success of these plantations, heavy exports of apple are bound to come about.

At very low levels like that near Muni-ki-Reti, mango, litchi, guava, orange and banana are grown fairly extensively.

Apple is best grown on mountain ridges between 1,828 m. and 2,438 m. high.

There were 5 government nurseries in the district in 1967-68 to supply fruit plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings to the people. The statement below gives the tahsilwise area in hectares of fruit and vegetable crops in the district in 1967-68 :

Tahsil	Fruit crops	Vegetable crops
Devaprayag	817	295
Pratapnagar	856	393
Tehri	1,049	626
Total ..	2,722	1,314

The statement which follows gives the achievements made in this sphere during the periods of the First, Second and Third Five-year Plans :

Activity	First Plan period	Second Plan period	Third Plan period
Distribution of winter fruit plants (Nos)	75,136	2,82,386	2,90,104
Distribution of rainy season fruit plants (Nos) ..	68,015	1,04,010	1,58,483
Rejuvenation of old orchards (in hectares)	2,925	111	338
Distribution of vegetable seeds (kg.) ..	168.28	400.06	1,147.58
Plants provided with plants protection service and sprayed with insecticides (Nos)	..	1,70,066	2,46,050
Establishment of fruit preservation and canning centres	..	..	1
Persons trained in fruit preservation and canning methods	..	..	200
Persons trained in improved horticultural practices ..	..	..	70

In the Third Plan period a sum of Rs 1,47,500 was advanced as loan and a sum of Rs 19,750 was given as grants to the cultivators for raising new orchards and for the improvement of old ones.

The Chamba–Mussoorie road fruit belt scheme was taken up in 1964-65. A length of more than 12 km. of this belt, with a total areas of 138 hectares, falls in the district and, till the end of 1966-67, more than 36,900 fruit trees had been planted in it. In the Fourth Plan, an area of 608 hectares of land of this belt is scheduled to be planted with fruit trees, involving an estimated expenditure of Rs 15,00,000.

On the pattern of the above scheme, the development blocks of the district are also to take up in the Fourth Plan, fruit belt schemes along over 184 km., length of roads covering more than 405 hectares in the district.

The target for establishing private orchards in the district during the Fourth Plan is an additional area of 4,742 hectares. For vegetables an additional area of 1,539 hectares is the target in this Plan. A sum of Rs 3,00,000 as loans is to be advanced to private horticulturists and a sum of Rs 91,500 is to be spent upon improving the government horticulture garden at Kanatal in that Plan.

Plant Diseases and Pests

There are many insects, pests, fungi and other diseases which affect the agricultural crops, vegetables and fruit orchards in the district. Paddy is generally attacked by *khundalya* which incapacitates the plant from bearing grain, *haldya* which turns the plants yellow and *jhola* which makes both the ears and corn black. The rice stem-borer locally called *kurungula* cuts and bores through the roots of the plant. The *gundhi* bug, so named

because of its bad smell, is most destructive for paddy and wheat crops. It sucks away the milky juice from the raw grains and, consequently, grains do not develop fully and shrivel up completely. The millets are attacked by fungal diseases and insect pests. Among the former, there are the *mandua* smut and leaf blight of *jhangora,* both of which stunt the plants. Among the latter are the *amascata albistringa* and black headed *diacrisia oblique.* Wheat crop is affected by rusts and smuts locally called *kavlin.* Brown and yellow rusts appear from January onward whereas black rust appears by the end of February. An attack by rust results in partial sterility and shrivelled grains. Black-rust is also called stem-rust because it attacks the stem most severely. It causes brown or blackish pustules on stems, leaves, ears and awns. The insect called *kurumula* generally cuts at the root of various crops. Another equally destructive insect is *petang.* Vegetable crops of potato, ladys' finger and pumpkin are mostly damaged by early and late blight, pinkball worm, leaf spot and red beetle. Citrus canker and wither-tip damage citrus fruits. Mango, papaya and guava orchards are affected by die-back, black-tip of mango, damping of seedlings and wither-tip. During the Third Five-year Plan nearly 18.45 hectares of crops were sprayed with chemical pesticides and rat eradication programme was carried out in an area of about 3,039 hectares.

Wild animals, birds, squirrels, rats, etc., also do a lot of damage to the crops. The usual means of protection against them are fencing, keeping watch and adopting means for their destruction. Various wild scrubs, vegetable growths like *bathua, chaulai,* doob, etc., also retard the growth of healthy crops. Deep ploughing, interculturing and weeding are the only remedies against them. The plant protection staff of the agriculture department educates the people in the benefits of chemical insecticides and pesticides and other scientific methods of plant protection for raising healthy crops of fruits, vegetables and cereals. They also provide spraying service and insecticides to the needy farmers on moderate payment.

Animal Husbandry

The following statement gives the figures of main live-stock population in the district according to the live-stock census of 1966. Fuller details of these figures are to be found in Table XII of the Appendix.

Cows and bulls	2,00,624
Buffaloes (male and female)	1,02,456
Sheep	34,499
Goats	1,04,497
Horses and ponies	1,359
Mules	1,019
Pigs	135
Yaks	4

The cows, she-buffaloes and goats are the main sources of milk. The oxen and buffaloes are used for ploughing the fields and also are pack-animals, a elected number of them being also used for breeding purposes. Horses, ponies, donkeys and mules are used for riding and also as pack-animals. The hill cattle generally differ from those of the plains in built, particularly in size being shorter and smaller.

The sheep and goats are reared chiefly for their meat, wool and skin, though their milk is also often used. The goats, particularly those of the Bhotiya breed, are stout and shaggy. They are also used as pack-animals. The hill dog, specially reared by the Bhotiyas, is famous for its strength, faithfulness and its utility as a watch-animal for those who rear goats and sheep. It is able to ward off depredations even by leopards.

Development of Cattle—With the formation of Tehri Garhwal as a district in 1949, cattle development started receiving proper governmental attention. The animal husbandry department has taken up a number of schemes, aimed at improving the breed of the livestock of the district.

The statement below gives some of the activities of the animal husbandry department in the district for improving the breed of the live-stock during each of the first three Five-year Plans :

Activity	First Plan period	Second Plan period	Third Plan period
Distribution of cow bulls (Nos)	7	29	54
Distribution of buffaloe bulls (Nos)	3	9	40
Distribution of rams (Nos)	81	117	175
Distribution of Chamba bucks (Nos)	..	40	19
Distribution of loan for purchasing cows and buffaloes of improved breed (Rs)	..	..	20,000

Sheep Development—For improving the breed of sheep, 81 rams were distributed in the First Plan, 117 in the Second Plan and 175 in the Third Plan periods in the district by the government. Two sheep and wool-extension centres, one each at Amarsar and Akhori, were opened in the First Plan, one sheep breeding farm at Kopardhar in the Second Plan and three sheep and wool-extension centres at Bhudhar, Agunda and Muna Dewal and one sheep breeding farm at Khaliyan Bangar in the Third Plan periods in the district. The breeding centres provide facilities for treatment of diseases of the cattle, stud-rams of improved breed and also breeding facilities to sheep owners in the district. The wool-extension centres carry out work of wool classification on scientific lines.

A sum of Rs 20,000 was advanced as loan and a sum of Rs 12,000 as grants to the sheep-rearers in the district for purchasing and rearing sheep of improved breeds in the Third Plan period. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has a scheme to help the establishment of small units of sheep rearing, each comprising 8 to 10 sheep during the Fourth Plan.

Goat Development—Goats of the districts are used as pack-animals. They also provide meat and milk. Forty improved breed bucks in the Second Plan and 101 in the Third Plan were distributed among cultivators to provide improved strains in the stock.

Poultry Development—Poultry offers enormous scope for development because of absence of any social taboo in its rearing and also because of large-scale under employment in the scanty agriculture available in the district. There were 14,126 poultry birds in the district according to the live-stock census of 1961.

In the Second Plan period, 2,970 birds of improved breed were distributed in the district and, in the Third Plan, the number rose to 8,187. Ten progressive poultry breeders of the district in the Second Plan and 4 in the Third Plan were provided with subsidised incubators for hatching purposes. Eight foster-mothers in the Second Plan and 27 in the Third Plan were distributed on subsidised basis.

In the Third Plan period, 44 persons were imparted training in improved methods of poultry-farming and it is proposed to train another 125 persons in these methods in the Fourth Plan period in the district.

At the end of the Third Plan period, there were 17 deep-litter poultry pens in the district. Government gives about 50 per cent subsidy for the construction of improved poultry pens. It is proposed in the Fourth Plan to help the poultry farmers in the district to construct 559 improved poultry pens out of which 104 would be deep-litter type.

A poultry demonstration farm with 22 birds was established at Tehri in the Second Plan. The number of birds rose to 120 at the end of the Third Plan and it is proposed to raise this number further to 200 in the Fourth Plan period in this farm.

Cattle Diseases and Veterinary Facilities—Diseases which generally prove fatal to the cattle are rinderpest, malignant sore throat, foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax. Those which kill the poultry birds and fowls are fowl-pox and the Ranikhet disease. From times immemorial, village physicians equipped with empirical knowledge and using indigenous herbs and traditional methods have been the only people to treat these diseases in this district. The establishment of veterinary hospitals and stockman-centres in the district has led to scientific treatment of the

diseases of the animals. In the year 1955-56, there were only 2 veterinary hospitals in the district. In 1966-67 the number of these hospitals rose to 11 and the number of stockman-centre to 30. Two more veterinary hospitals and 20 stockman-centres are proposed to be established in the near future.

The following statement gives the figures of animals which were provided treatment in the district during each of the first three Five-year Plans :

Veterinary facility	First Plan eriod	Second Plan period	Third Plan period
Animals treated for minor diseases	45,321	78,327	92,451
Old and useless animals castrated	1,420	1,628	12,079
Animals vaccinated	45,243	76,166	52,894
Poultry birds vaccinated	31,752	41,731	14,654

Cattle Housing and Fodder—The cattle are housed in the *goth* a place beneath the dwelling house or in separate sheds which are littered with grass, leaves and garbage and cleaned occasionally, the contents being taken to the fields for use as compost manure. Fodder mainly consists of grass, leaves and straw. Grain and salt are also sometimes added to the cattle-feed. Usually, cattle graze in the harvested fields, forests, pastures and waste lands in the district. In the summer months, when vegetation becomes scarce, cattle are driven to extensive pasture lands having *bugal* grass, on the Panwali Kantha in the valley of the Bhillangana river. Total area covered by pasture land in the district was 16,505 hectares in 1964-65.

Provision of sample nutritious fodder is necessary for rearing healthy cattle and the animal husbandry department is taking steps to encourage the villagers to sow crops of *berseem* and Giant Napier, Giant Star and *kikui* grasses and Kudzu vine. An area of 32 hectares was sown with these improved fodder crops in the district in 1966-67 and it is proposed to increase this area by nearly 81 hectares in the Fourth Plan period.

Fisheries—No pisciculture has been undertaken in the district so far although various species of fish abound in its rivers and lakes, the chief being *gadyal, bhamit* and *gair*. Trout is found in abundance in *Shastru* Tal (Sahastra Tal). Despite efforts made by the government to check it, local people still sometimes surreptitiously use dynamite sticks to kill large quantities of fish in the rivers. There is, however, no exports of fish from the district on a commercial basis.

Forestry

The importance of forestry in the economy of the district was properly realised by the then rulers of Tehri Garhwal state only towards the commencement of the twentieth century. Forests were considered to be the property of the Soveriegn from times immemorial but, owing to the conformation of the country and the absence of communications, those along the foothills alone possessed any fiscal value. As a result of the efforts made to conserve forests in the district and to scientifically exploit their produce, there has been a spurt in the government revenues which can best be judged from the fact that whereas the gross annual income from this source was under a lakh rupees at the commencement of the current century, timber worth Rs 15 lakhs, resin worth Rs 12 lakhs and medicinal herbs worth about ½ lakhs rupees were exported from the district in 1967 alone. In the absence of any major industry in the district, forestry — besides agriculture — is the mainstay of the economy of this district.

The major forest produce is timber and fuel wood. Minor forest products include bamboo, grass, leaves, leaf-manure, oils, tanning material, dyes, gums, resin, medicinal herbs, edible fruits, honey and wax, besides animal products like hides, skins, bones, horns, musk-pods and monal feathers.

Among timbers, sal and *chir* form the bulk, others being *haldu, shisham, burans, malu, khair,* deodar, *tun, semal,* fir, *kali, bakuli, sadan, kanju, genthi, moru, kharasu, banj,* etc. Their timber is utilised in the form of pols, logs, sleepers, rafters scantlings and planks. *Khair* is used for manufacturing catechu, a basic ingredient for preparing chewing betels. *Genthi* and *sadan* wood is used extensively for manufacturing agricultural implements and small wooden utensils. *Bakuli* wood is turned into charcoal. *Semla* produces gum. *Malu* leaves provide thatching material and are also converted into indigenous umbrellas.

Chir-wood is used not only as timber for buildings but also provides a gum that produces turpentine. Its seeds produce oil and are also roasted and eaten. The most oil-bearing portion of this tree is used also for providing domestic light. Dry leaves provide good manure. *Chir* forests are said to be particularly suited for providing healthy environment to patients of tuberculosis.

Banj provides wood for making charcoal and also agricultural implements. Its leaves are the main item of fodder for cattle and also provide excellent compost after being properly treated. The mountain springs having their sources in *banj* forests are known for the good taste, coolness and healthy qualities of their waters.

Buraṣ timber is of no general use but it gives forth abundant red blossoms which have a rich softening quality when used for rendering cooked meat tender.

Moru and *kharasu* leaves are mostly used as fodder.

Deodar timber is known for its hardness and durability and used primarily as building material. This tree is held sacred by the local people and its oil provides a medicine for several skin diseases.

Among minor forest products, *bugal* grass provides extensive pasture lands for sheep and goats during the summer months in Bhillung and Bhardar parganas. These pastures also contain valuable medicinal herbs and their climate is considered particularly suited to sheep and goats. They remain snow-bound during the winter months. The sheep and goats reared in these pasture lands have unusually soft wool of fairly long staple. The areas near Thati Kathud and on Panwali Kantha are particularly known to possess such extensive pasture lands. With the onset of the early autumn season (August and September), these pasture lands get converted into beautiful and extensive flower-beds, appearing to a casual onlooker as beautifully embossed large carpets. The incidence of rainfall in these areas is not high. Fog persists most of the time during monsoon season. Because of the rarified atmosphere and scented air, breathing becomes difficult, leading to headaches and a feeling of general lassitude. Sour things and *sattu* provide a ready antidote for such conditions.

Another valuable tree that is found at heights between 3,048 m. and 3,124 m. is *bhojpatra*. Its bark was the main writing material in olden times and its wood is used for manufacturing small utensils.

At heights between 3,149 m. small grass patches and a secred flower named *brahma-kamal* (lotus of god Brahma) are also found. *Brahma-kamal* is used mainly as an offering to gods and pilgrims going to Badrinath and Kedarnath shrines carry bunches of this flower all the way with them to offer them at the feet of the idols there.

At heights between 3,149 m. and 3,073 m., *padam* tree is also found. It is held sacred by the local people and its wood is used as incense-powder

In cool valleys, *ringal* and *papri* trees abound, particularly in Bhilung pargana. These provide material for woven mattresses and baskets. *Ringal* also provides the smoking-pipe for hookas and *papri* is used for manufacturing decorative toys and articles.

At lower altitudes bushes predominate. One such bush, *kingor*, provides the valuable blood-purifier and eye-ointment called *rasaut* which is extracted from its roots.

Bhimal tree is planted mostly near habitation sites as its leaves provide excellent fodder for milch-cattle. Its fibre is used for making ropes all over the district.

The forest wealth in this district still has immense potentialities and a full and proper exploitation of this wealth is bound to boost up the economy of the district in times to come. The match factory at Bareilly, already obtains from this district large quantities of *semal* and fir timber for conversion into match-sticks. The saw-mills at Lalkuan, Ramnagar, Tanakpur, Haldwani and Bareilly in neighbouring districts obtain bulk supplies of timber from the forests in this district.

Transport of felled timber, particularly from the upper reaches in the district and the comparatively inaccessible areas, poses the biggest hurdle in the marketing of this most valuable forest produce of this district. The age-old system of floating logs and planks of wood down the rivers is still the main form of their transportation and it leads necessarily to some pilferage and breakage.

Felling of trees in reserved forests and planting of new trees in forests is done departmentally as well as through contractors.

Natural Calamities

Details of the number and nature of natural calamities and the steps taken by the authorities to combat them in this district are not available for the period prior to 1960 when the district assumed its present shape as an administrative unit.

People in the hill areas live in scattered and distant villages, communications between which are always difficult and access to which is rarely better than by narrow bridle paths. Their fields produce little more than is required for their sustenance. They are usually unable to maintain a buffer-stock for the 'rainy day'. As a consequence, the deficit harvest followed by the failure of the succeeding one generally produces conditions of scarcity. Lack of sufficient means of communication impede transport of food-grains from one part to another in such times of need.

The economic history of the region, so far as is known, mentions no district-wide famine. In 1867, the spring crops were destroyed by drought. Grain was bought in the southern parts of the district and brought for sale in the scarcity areas. People generally purchased it for cash though some also gave labour in exchange for food. Distress disappeared with the harvesting of the excellent autumn crop that followed.

The famine of 1877 is traditionally held to be the worst in this region. Relief works and poor-houses were started. The village head-men were charged with the duty of bringing destitutes and indigent people to the poor-houses. Those employed on relief works were given tickets in lieu of

wages and these tickets were exchanged for food-grains kept with the traders. Gratuitous relief, as now understood, was not granted though, in a very few instances, resourceless females of respectable classes who would not condescend to working for sustenance or accept local charity were provided food at their homes at government cost.

After the famine of 1877, conditions were comparatively easy till 1889 when an indifferent autumn crop, coupled with a severe cholera epidemic and followed by an almost total loss of the spring crop of 1890, completely impoverished large sections of the people. Grains were imported from the plains and loans were given to the people to enable them to purchase the same. This distress continued till 1892. In 1891 Kharif crop suffered a loss of 50 per cent and the Rabi crop of 1892 also sustained a loss of 25 per cent. Loans were again given to the people and relief grain shops were opened.

There were minor spells of localised scarcities in 1894 and 1895. In 1896, general famine conditions again prevailed and necessitated opening of relief works and granting of loans. For the first time, gratuitous relief was provided to the people by the government. In 1902, the scarcity was again confined to certain parts of the district and it was met by giving advances to the traders for importing food-grains from the plains, cash grants for the support of the village destitutes and opening of relief works like the repair of roads.

In 1907, scanty and ill-distributed rains were followed by a poor Kharif crop. The winter rains also failed, yielding only 40 per cent of Rabi harvest in 1908. Relief operations in the shape of distribution of cash advances for sustenance and import of grains from plains, opening of grain shops, starting of civil works and grant of gratuitous relief were resorted to. The famine of 1908 was, in popular estimation, the worst since 1877. Even the cheapest food-grains were then available at the rate of 4.6 kg. (5 seers) to a rupee.

No data about scarcities or natural calamities are unfortunately available for the next 50 years or so. In 1962, a severe hailstorm damaged Kharif crops in 22 villages of tahsil Pratapnagar, necessitating remission of land revenue amounting to Rs 4,215. In the monsoon season of 1963, excessive rainfall caused widespread damage to crops, buildings, cattle and even human life. The worst affected were the Athur valley in tahsil Tehri, and *pattis* Bharpur and Dogi in tahsil Devaprayag. The government disbursed gratuitous relief in cash and also allowed the sufferers to obtain timber and thatching material free from reserved forests. Similar damage was caused in a number of villages in tahsil Devaprayag in the succeeding monsoon season of 1964. Besides gratuitous relief, the government also distributed distress *taqavi*. The monsoon was very active for the third year in succession in 1965 and tahsils Devaprayag and Pratapnagar

suffered some damage. Some gratuitous relief had to be provided to sufferers in the next monsoon season of 1966 also This was followed soon after by hailstorms in September that year and considered damage was caused to standing Kharif crops, particularly *mandua*, in tahsils Devaprayag and Pratapnagar. Failure of succeeding winter rains, however, led to damage to Rabi crops in early 1967 in about 342 villages of tahsil Devaprayag, 73 villages of tahsil Pratapnagar and 10 villages in Dhanolti area of tahsil Tehri. Hailstorms worsened the position and land revenue amounting to Rs 2,854 had to be suspended. Distress *taqavi* and gratuitous relief in cash and kind were disbursed along with quantities of milk powder, medicines, clothes, blankets, etc., donated by the Indian Red Cross Society.



CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

Old-time Industries

The district has not had many old-time rural or urban industries. Some of the residents of the district, particularly in the northern part of it have been engaged in the spinning and weaving of wool for centuries. Most of the wool was obtained from indigenous sheep. Its staple was short and texture coarse and only rough blankets were woven. A few of these were sold and the remaining were used by the weaver and his family. The production of woollen goods began to decline after 1946 because of the competition offered by factories at Kanpur.

Production of *ringal* goods (mats, baskets, etc.) and paper from Satpura, a kind of shrub, have been the other old important industries of the district. Some of these baskets and mattings found their way to Tibet through Mana and Niti passes. The industry was concentrated along the rivers Bhagirathi and Bhillangana. Hand-made paper was also manufactured at Tehri and it was exported to Delhi and other places in the plains for official use. However, by the twenties of the present century the demand for the hand-made paper declined and the industry has almost ceased to exist now.

Narrow strips of cloth used to be manufactured from hemp-fibre since ancient times. For the manufacture of this cloth the best fibre was obtained from the male hemp plant. The stalks were cut green and dried for several days in the sun before they became brown. Thereafter they were tied into bundles and steeped for 15 to 16 days in pools or running streams, being kept under water by stones laid upon them. They were then taken out, beaten with wooden mallets and dried in the sun, after which the fibre was peeled off from the thick end of the stalk to the top. It was then cleaned and spun into bags or woven into cloth. This cloth was durable. The use of the fibre is now confined to the manufacture of bags, and the industry has shifted to Dehra Dun.

Wooden utensils and jugs were also manufactured in the valley of the river Bhagirathi. This industry has been replaced by that of the manufacture of brass and copper utensils. A few people living by the banks of the Bhillangana used to make catechu out of chips of the Khair trees which grows there in abundance. With the opening of a factory producing catechu at Bareilly in 1919, this small cottage industry has almost faded out and only very few units now exist.

The government has introduced a number of schemes since 1956 to help the gradual industrialisation of the district. Local people are being trained in various crafts in the many production and training centres

which have been opened and financial and technical help is increasingly being provided to industrial units.

Power

This region is full of natural springs, waterfalls and rushing torrents which can provide motive power for setting up hydro-electric power stations. The enormous cost of the laying of long distance transmission lines in hilly tracts and the inherent difficulty in their maintenance has however acted as a deterrent in generating hydro-electricity in the district. It has been estimated that the river Bhagirathi alone has a potential of 30,000 kw., while the Bhillangana can yield 900 kw. of hydroelectric energy.

The U. P. State Electricity Board has been entrusted with the execution of power-generating schemes in the region since 1960-61. A large number of power stations are likely to be established during the Fourth Five-year Plan.

Thermal electricity is being produced at Tehri since 1930 by means of diesel engines. At present there are 5 diesel engines which provide electricity to the town. Kirti Nagar receives electricity from Pauri Garhwal and a sub-station is maintained there since 1935. A diesel engine was installed in Narendra Nagar in 1940 (440 volts). However, in 1954 electricity was made available to Narendra Nagar from the Ganga grid at Rishikesh. The charges for electricity vary from 35 paise per unit (at Narendra Nagar) to 53 paise per unit (at Tehri) for non-industrial consumers.

Small-scale Industries

Small-scale industries of the district include the production of lime, footwear, woollen garments and battery plates. Job work in printing is also undertaken on a small scale in the district. Most of the units engaged in these industries are located either in and around Tehri or at Muni-ki-Reti, a township adjacent to Rishikesh, the railhead for the district.

Lime Industry—The manufacture of lime is an old industry. The Himalayan Limestone Company, Rishikesh, established a unit in 1956 at Muni-ki-Reti where another unit was also set up in 1961. Lime is manufactured from the limestone available in abundance at Muni-ki-Reti. It is burnt in furnaces constructed below the surface of the earth and fired through a hole. The furnace operates for 8 days and then lime is formed. The production of lime remains suspended in the monsoon months. With a total investment of about Rs 2,75,000 lime worth Rs 6,73,000 was produced, consuming limestone worth Rs 4,50,000 in 1967. Most of the lime is consumed locally while some of it is exported to Hardwar and Dehra Dun.

Printing Press—There is only a single unit which was established at Muni-ki-Reti in 1961. It has a total investment of Rs 20,000 and printing work worth Rs 40,000 was done, consuming paper and ink costing Rs 20,000 in 1967. This unit employs 8 persons.

Carpentry—Furniture, building materials (doors, windows, etc.) are produced by the units which are situated at Tehri, Chham and Khandwal Gaon. About Rs 9,000 is invested in this industry and goods worth Rs 5,400 were produced consuming timber costing Rs 4,500 in 1967. The industry employed 12 persons.

Leather Industry—Leather shoes and tanned leather are produced by 6 units which are located at Manola, Joyal and Tehri. A sum of about Rs 18,000 is invested in the industry and shoes and tanned leather worth an amount of Rs 14,500 were manufactured, consuming leather costing Rs 12,000 in 1967. The industry is manned by 24 persons.

Battery Plates—A unit which is engaged in electroplating work at Muni-ki-Reti, produced battery plates worth Rs 4,000, consuming copper plates costing Rs 3,000 in 1967. The unit is manned by 3 persons and the total investment in it is Rs 10,000.

Woollen Cloth—One unit at Thati manufacturers wollen cloth, employing 4 persons. An amount of about Rs 2,500 is invested in the industry and woollen cloth worth Rs 3,600 was manufactured consuming wool worth Rs 2,000 in 1967.

Village and Cottage Industries

Production of wool and manufacture of woollen goods continue to be the main cottage industries of the district. Rearing of quality sheep, especially the marino varieties is an ancillary industry.

Besides, there are units which manufacture baskets, mats, woollen goods and furniture, metal utensils and agricultural implements. These products are locally consumed and the units manufacturing them are widely spread in the district. The workers employed are mostly members of a family and the units are located in the houses of the owners. The investment is limited and the basic tools are mostly indigenous.

Wool and Woollen Goods

The industry is mainly located between altitudes of 1525 m. and 2440 m. Efforts are being made to rear sheep of good strain. Chamba and Chham are the main centres of this industry.

There are about 30 units, with a total investment of Rs 72,100 and *thulmas, chuktas* (types of blankets), *namdas* (carpets) and tweeds worth Rs 81,863 were produced, consuming wool costing Rs 11,502 in 1967. Improved weaving frames have been distributed by the State government

and new techniques of production in spinning and weaving are being imparted to the trainees in the production-cum-training centres.

Production-cum-Training Centres—The Hill Wool Scheme was launched in the district in 1956-57 and the first weaving centre was opened at Chamba, and the second at Chham in 1960-61. More spinning centres were opened at Tungoli, Satyon, Jwalapur and Feruper in 1960-61, 1963-64, 1965-66 and 1966-67 respectively. As many as 386 spinners and 9 weavers have been trained till December 31, 1967. Each trainee receives a stipend of Rs 25 per month and the training period lasts for a year. Woollen cloth worth Rs 27,673.18 (2,397.90 m. in length) had been manufactured in the decade 1957 to 1967, at these centres.

Basket and Allied Industry

Baskets of different types, mats, etc., are made from *ringal* (*Arundinaria*), which is generally about 3 m. in height and has a diameter of about 8 cm. It is more flexible than bamboo but less so than cane. It is grown on heights above 1,829 m. and is cut and prepared for use in winter. The industry is spread in 35 villages of the Bhagirathi and Bhillangana valleys, employing about 400 workers. The total investment in the industry was Rs 5,600 and it produced baskets, mats, etc., worth Rs 24,100, consuming *ringal* costing Rs 7,100 in 1961.

Logging

The district is very rich in tall trees like the pine and the deodar. The pine grows at different altitudes between 914 and 2,133.60 metres, while the deodar grows even at higher levels. These trees are carefully cut during the felling season which extends from November to April, and their branches and bark are removed. They are sawn by hand into 2.13 m. long rectangular pieces, known as sleepers. The Bhagirathi, the Bhillangana and the Alaknanda are the main rivers down which sleepers are floated for their destinations in the plains.

The felling in the district was started by one Mr. Wilson who secured a lease to exploit all forest produce including musk-pods, monal feathers, skins of wild animals and birds and also to fell the trees. A small deodar forest in the Barethi Gad basin was the first area of which he fell the trees. He extended his felling to *Baragaddi, Bhandar Syun* and *Mahiddanda*. He also fell the Chir forest in Bhaldiyana. He started preparing sleepers for the railways. These be floated down the Bhagirathi to Hardwar. Mr. Wilson's lease continued up to May 1, 1864 after which the felling work was taken over by the British government. This lease expired on May 1, 1885 and all forests revertred to the raja's control with whom they remained till 1949, the year of the merger of the district with the State of U. P.

The sleepers are brough to the rivers, when there is enough water in the summer season ; made into rafts (each raft comprises about 20

sleepers) and then floated down. Some of the rafts are dismantled at Devaprayag and transported by trucks, while others continue their onward journey to the Raiwala timber depot in Dehra Dun district. Timber worth about Rs 13,64,700 were floated down the rivers in 1967.

Carpentry

In spite of large area under the rich forests, carpentry units have failed to grow and most of the timber still finds its way to the adjoining plains. However with the increase in the demand for furniture for both individual as well as official use and with the opening of various training-cum-production centres by the industries department some 20 small units are now working in the district. These are engaged in the manufacture of furniture boxes, wooden utensils, etc., and goods worth Rs 48.912 were produced consuming raw material costing Rs 29,587 in 1967, against an investment of Rs 31,000 in the industry. Unlike the plains, the carpenter spends more on transport and sawing and pays less for the timber which is available in plenty.

Production-cum-Training Centres—One carpentry centre was opened at Bajwan in 1955 by the State industries department. Furniture worth Rs 197 was manufactured and 5 persons were trained in carpentry in 1966-67. Every trainee was given Rs 20 per month as stipend. This centre was however, closed down in March, 1967.

The goods made of *papri* wood (*Buxus sempervirens*) are polished and painted, in lacquer and oil, and make beautiful pieces of furniture, table lamps, drawing and survey instruments and carved wooden articles. The wood is yellowish white, hard, very close and even-grained. The government established a *papri* wood centre at Tehri in 1961. Training in the crafts (carpentry and *papri* wood making) was imparted to 8 persons and *papri* goods worth Rs 521 were produced in 1967-68. Every trainee receives Rs 25 per month as stipend.

Footwear Industry—There are 25 units with a total investment of Rs 70,900. Footwear worth Rs 77,087 were produced, consuming raw materials worth Rs 36,077, in 1967.

A leather production-cum-training centre was established at Tehri in 1965. Shoes and tanned leather worth Rs 321 were produced and 13 persons were trained in the craft in 1966-67. Every trainee received Rs 20 per month as stipend.

Smithery—There are 20 units, with a total investment of Rs. 41,400 and agricultural and other implements worth Rs 17,455 were manufactured in 1967, consuming iron and steel costing Rs 8,258.

Soap—Soap is manufactured in two units, one is situated at Narendra Nagar and the other at Khand. The total investment in the industry was Rs 50,000 and soap worth Rs 1,530 was produced in 1967, consuming oil and chemicals worth an amount of Rs 979.

Tailoring—There are a number of units throughout the district. The four units at Tehri are larger ones and an amount of about Rs 9,500 was invested in these units in 1967. Ready-made garments worth a sum of Rs 13,706 were manufactured consuming cloth costing about Rs 4,000 in 1967.

The industries department of the U. P. government opened a production-cum-training centre in tailoring for women at Tehri in 1956. The centre produced garments worth Rs 170 and 5 women were trained in tailoring in 1966-67. The trainees were not given any stipend.

Sericulture—This region possesses climatic conditions suitable for the rearing of silk-work, particularly of the univoltine race. The government have established a nursery at Bhagwatpur (near Tehri) in 1961-62. It supplies second stage larvae to the rearers for rearing and production of cocoons and distributes mulberry seedlings and grafts to them for plantation on their lands. To cocoons produced by the rearers are purchased by the planning department at subsidised rates. The nursery suffered from an initial set-back as 50 per cent of the larvae distributed were dead in the first-year (1961-62).

The nursery is manned by an inspector, a demonstrator, a rearing operator, a rearing attendant, a gardener, and a guard. The annual expenditure on this establishment was Rs 14,602 and 94 kg. of silk was produced in 1967-68.

Other Industries—Sticks, from cane are made at Jakholi ; ban (string) from forest grasses at Tehri and Pasodi ; and radios are assembled at Tehri. The fruit preservation industry has units at Rajeebpur, Sorgi, and Jagyana.

Government Aid

In addition to the expenditure incurred on production-cum-training centres, the State government advances loans to private parties for establishing new industrial units and for expanding the existing ones. During the Third Five-year Plan amount of Rs 1,47,000 and Rs 16,750 have been distributed as loans and grants respectively to entrepreneurs.

Industrial Expansion

The district has large area under forests and different kinds of timber which are readily available, can provide opportunities for the introduction and expansion of industrial units. Walnut and maple can be utilised in the manufacture of gun butts. Sports goods and furniture can also be manufactured and exported to the plains in either finished or semi-finished condition. Resin, collected from pine trees, can serve as raw material for the manufacture of rosin and turpentine. Resin worth Rs 12,00,000 was exported to the plains in 1967.

A number of minerals are available in the district and they can be exploited profitably. Only one unit at Muni-ki-Reti produces lime from limestone but more such units can be established with profit in the district. A majority of the villagers still use a solution of yellowish-white clay for coating the walls of their houses as lime is not available in plenty.

Pharmaceutical experts of the State government have examined the various herbs collected from natural sources in the district. Preliminary tests of these herbs have shown that they possess copious medicinal elements.[1] Units for the manufacture of Ayurvedic medicines can be established in the district.

Pine-tar is obtained from the highly resinous stump wood (torchwood) of rejected or fallen pine-trees and allied species that are abundantly found in the region. Pine-tar finds use in the manufacture of belt, rope, rubber goods and waterproofing compounds. The rubber industry alone needs large quantities of pine-tar, which can be produced in the district.

Pine-needles, which are at present a waste material and a problem for the forest department in relation to the prevention of forest fires, offer raw material for the production of fibres, known as pine-wool. It is used as a packing material as well as for filling.

The soap-stone found in the district is of first rate quality for cosmatic and other industries. It is found in the Bhilung and Tehri parganas. Of late soap-stone and talc are in great demand and textile mills also use them in the calendering processes. With the import restrictions on foreign goods the indigenous talcum powder is being increasingly used. The industry can be organized near Tehri. Soap-stone lumps can be reduced to fine powder by a battery of water-mills. Simple grading equipment can yield powder of first-rate quality.

The climate and the floral distribution of the district can add to the development of apiaries.

It is hoped that as more power (electricity) and better means of communications are made available, many other industries can be profitably established in the district and the existing industries can be developed further.

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1 Gupta, R. K. : 'Botanical Explorations in the Bhillangana valley of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal, State.

Jonrnal of the Bombay Natural History Society, August 1956, December 1957, and August 1962.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of Banking in the District

Though the region covered by the present district of Tehri Garhwal has been inhabited since early times, the craggy and precipitous ranges hardly leave an even patch of land of any considerable size which can be utilized for large-scale agricultural operations. The cultivators have, therefore, resorted to terrace cultivation, and have inhabited villages located near glens where water is perenially available. Communication was naturally difficult and confined to narrow bridle-paths. The villagers sought to be self-sufficient but it was seldom that they could grow in the small patches of land available to them for cultivation more than what was required for their consumption.

The trade of the district consisted of both export and import of commodities with Tibet in the north and the plains of U. P. in the south. The trade with Tibet was in the hands of the Bhotiyas of Uttar Kashi district. In the villages the *sahukar* (money-lender) operated and advanced loans to the needy villagers. No deposits were accepted by the money-lenders and land could be offered as security for loans.

The government of the erstwhile Tehri state regulated the rates of interest on different types of loans recoverable through courts of law, and fixed ceilings for such rates ranging between 6 and 15 per cent. Besides the creditor could not charge compound interest. The land of the cultivator was also protected and it could not be sold or mortgaged to the creditor in lieu of the loans taken by him.

The economic depression of the thirties of this century prompted the ruler of the erstwhile state to establish the Agricultural Bank of Garhwal, Ltd, in January 1933. Loans were advanced to the agriculturists at an interest of 3 per cent per annum and to others e.g., contractors of forests and industrialists at 6 to 12 per cent per annum. The bank had a pay-office at Tehri. It was, however, closed in March 1960. The Tehri Garhwal District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was established at Tehri in 1957 and it opened a branch-office at Kirti Nagar in 1963. The State Bank of India has opened a branch-office at Narendra Nagar in November 1966.

Rural Indebtedness

Before 1800 the people enjoyed a measure of economic prosperity under their rulers. After the Gorkha invasion in 1803, the situation deteriorated and the indebtedness of the cultivators increased. The economic condition of the agriculturists of the district continued to be indifferent due among other reasons to uneconomic agricultural holdings and the difficulties of mountainous terrain. They took loans for marriages, purchase of cattle or even for buying necessities. By the end of the nineteenth century, there was some improvement which was dissipated by the economic depression of the thirties of this century. The *sahukar* and the bigger landlords, who also occasionally advanced loans, could not escape the common lot ; many had to sell their lands to make the two ends meet.

The high prices of agricultural products prevailing during and after the war of 1939–45 gave the agriculturists good returns in terms of money but they had to pay high prices for necessaries, such as cloth, kerosene oil, implements and live-stock. The prices of food-grains have continued to rise ever since the end of the Second World War assuring consistently favourable returns to the farmers. In spite of this, their traditional financial difficulties have not been eliminated, because of increase in population and the prevalence of uneconomic holdings. The farmer finds the money-lender handy and always ready to advance loans without tangible securities, be it for marriages or other ceremonies or for investment in agriculture. Thus about 60 per cent of the agriculturists are indebted.

All the bigger landlords employed the lower castes for farming. Loans were advanced to them and occasionally some piece of land as well. They had to work for the landlords in lieu of the interest on the loans received. Years passed and these labourers who were unable to clear their debts, remained as serfs. After the death of the debtor, the debt devolved on his son and in this way generations of the debtor remained under the control of the landlord.

There is another very old practice known as *ganth khulai* (opening of the knot), which enables the money-lender to pay an amount of Rs 93.75 only for every sum of Rs 100 borrowed. The money-lender also lends food-grains, seeds, implements, etc., which the borrower has to return at the next harvest, the transaction being known at *udharu*.

Urban Indebtedness

Tehri, Devaprayag and Kirti Nagar are trade centres and the traders and contractors of the district borrow from money-lenders for investment in trade, the rate of interest at times being as high as 30 per cent per annum. About 25 per cent of the total population are indebted in these areas but most of them are able to repay their debts.

Debt-relief Legislation

After the merger of the erstwhile Tehri state with the State of Uttar Pradesh and the consequent creation of the district as an administrative unit in 1960, the different laws already enacted in the State to provide relief to rural debtors were extended to this district. The Usurious Loans Act, 1918, which sought somewhat ineffectively, to impose checks on the charging of excessive rates of interest from debtors, and upon unfair transactions concerning loans ; the U. P. Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1934, which among other things provided for repayment of debts in instalments at low rates of interest ; and the U. P. Debt Redemption Act, 1940, which sought to protect the property of debtors from largescale liquidation and introduced the accounting of interest on loans at low rates, brought some relief to rural debtors. The intended degree of relief was, however, availed of only by the more educated or substantial borrowers.

Role of Private Money-lenders

In addition to the State Bank of India, the Tehri Garhwal District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, and other accredited money-lenders, some of the traders also lend money in the district. With the partition of the country a large number of immigrants who have settled in this district, trade in various commodities. These persons also lend money. There are about 1,200 money-lenders in the district and of them 120 have come from Pakistan. Similarly some of the priests of Devaprayag also lend money. The rate of interest charged by private money-lenders and financiers varies from 8 to 30 per cent per annum on different types of securities. The village money-lender seldom presses for a security but keeps an eye on the harvest of the cultivator.

National Savings Organisation

The post-office savings bank scheme has been operating in the district since 1882 and other such schemes that have followed are designed to tap the savings of those who generally do not subscribe to government loans and also to inculcate the habit of thrift in the people, thus making funds available to the government for investment in development schemes. The Chinese aggression in 1962 led to the introduction of the defence deposit certificates and the national defence certificates for raising funds for the defence of the country.

The scheme of premium prize bonds (which are bearer bonds) was introduced in the district on January 1, 1963. They were available at the treasuries and post-offices up to December 31, 1964 in the denominations of Rs 5 and Rs 100. They were encashable 5 years after the date of sale with a premium of 10 per cent, the holders being eligible to participate

in 2 draws for prizes. The nett total amount of investments made in the district in different securities was Rs 15,81,160 in 1966-67 ; Rs 12,77,898 being invested in the post-office savings bank securities.

Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies

It was in 1950 that 5 co-operative credit societies were established in the district. They continued to grow and in 1960 their number rose to 476. The primary co-operatives advanced Rs 5,51,418 to the agriculturists at 4 per cent per annum in 1960 and this figure was more than doubled in 1967 when a sum of Rs 12,21,945 was advanced at 9 per cent per annum. The Tehri Garhwal District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was established at Tehri in 1957-58. The bank finances the co-operative societies in the district. However, small co-operative societies were amalgamated to form larger societies since 1961 and 380 primary agricultural societies were functioning in 1967. These had a membership of 28,000 with a share capital of Rs 6,82,000. On an average in the year 1963-64 every society had 57 members, a share capital of Rs 1,364, a working capital of Rs 3,540, and advanced an amount of Rs 4,400 on loan at 8.75 per cent per annum as interest.

Other Co-operative Societies

The continuous rise in the prices of consumers' goods led to the establishment of a consumers' store in Tehri town in 1950. The district co-operative federation, Tehri Garhwal, was established at Muni-ki-Reti in 1951. The total investment of the federation stood at Rs 74,903 in 1967. Consumers' goods and agricultural implements and fertilisers are provided by the federation and the consumers' store at Tehri. The federation sold atta, wheat, sugar, kerosene oil, coal and tin worth Rs 10,43,000 in 1960, and Rs 11,31,501 in 1967. A milk union was formed in 1958. A transport co-operative society formed by the owners of private buses and trucks and a labour co-operative society were established at Tehri in 1961. The investment in each of these societies in 1967 is given below :

Society	Investment (In rupees)
Consumers' store, Tehri	10,503
Milk union, Jaunpur	7,702
Transport co-operative, Tehri	20,504
Labour co-operative, Tehri	6,083

Tehri Garhwal District Co-operative Bank, Ltd—This bank was established at Tehri in 1957-58 and it opened a branch-office at Kirti Nagar in 1965. It has a share capital of Rs 8,89,000, and a working capital of Rs 24,63,000 in 1967. The bank advanced loans to the primary co-opera-

tive societies and the district co-operative federation, Muni-ki-Reti. The loans advanced by the bank are given in the following statement :

Year	Total loan advanced (in Rs)	Rate of interet (per cent per annum)
1958-59	98,602	6·25
1959-60	3,27,783	6·25
1960-61	5,23,151	6·25
1961-62	8,58,699	6·25
1962-63	17,19,170	6·25
1963-64	25,80,484	6·25
1964-65	28,46,487	6·25
1965-66	33,47,412	6·75

The bank has continued to advance money to the co-operatives through the years and in return its profit has increased from Rs 2,590.15 in 1960-61 to Rs 6,734 in 1964-65, and Rs 70,689.34 in 1966-67.

State Bank of India—A branch-office of the State Bank of India was established at Narendra Nagar in November 1966. The bank advances loans on 7½ per cent per annum and accepts deposits on 4 to 7 per cent per annum.

Taqavi

As elsewhere in the State taqavi loans are also advanced in this district to the agriculturists for effecting improvement of permanent nature in the land under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883. Loans for minor irrigation are also sanctioned under this Act. The Agriculturists' Loans Act (Act XII of 1884) advances taqavi for purchase of seeds, bullocks, fertilisers, and for the relief of distress. The following statement gives some details of the loans advanced in the last 3 years under these Acts :

Year	Taqavi advanced (in rupees)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)	Period
1965-66	1,21,250	5½	2 to 10 years
1966-67	61,900	5½	2 to 5 years
1967-68	87,500	5½	2 to 5 years

Currency and Coinage

Prior to the Gorkha occupation in 1803 the region was ruled by the rajas of Garhwal who had their own currency and coinage. During 1804–15 the Gorkhas introduced their rupee which was equivalent to 12 annas of the Farrukhabadi rupee. Since 1815 when Sudarshan Sah came to the throne of Tehri, the coinage of the East India Company and the Farrukhabadi rupee, so called because it was minted at the Farrukhabad mint, came to be in vogue. One hundred Farrukhabadi rupees were equivalent to 100.144 of the rupees minted by the East India Company.

Life Insurance

Life insurance business was nationalised in September, 1956, with the constitution of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. A development officer posted at Tehri, looks after the work. The volume of the business in the district in the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 is given below :

Year	Number of lives assured	Sum assured (in rupees)
1966-67	300	10,00,000
1967-68	350	10,00,000

Trade and Commerce

Course of Trade

A very small proportion of the population was engaged in trade in the past. Those who lived in the northern *pattis* had some trade with the people from Tibet to whom they supplied food-grains and from whom they brought wool for sale. The district imported food-grains, salt, cotton cloth, sugar, etc., from the plains and in return exported timber, hand-made paper, herbs and various other hill products. It is on record that the Government of India obtained supplies of hand-made paper and herbs from the district in 1860 and 1863.

The absence of reliable roads hampered the trade and the contacts with other parts of the country were limited. Only small quantities of goods moved on ponies, bullocks, goats and sheep. However, the emergence of some bridle-roads, in the territories of Tehri Garhwal gave impetus to trade. Tehri was on the road to the sacred shrines of Badrinath and Kedarnath and this increased the trade between Tehri, Rishikesh, Dehra Dun and Mussoorie. The cost of food-grains imported went up from Rs 7,03,411 in 1913 to Rs 11,87,543 in 1921. There was also an increase in the exports but it was not so marked.

This pattern of trade has continued but it gained a greater momentum after the merger of the district with U. P. The development of motorable

roads and the industrial potential of the district are the two main factors which have increased the pace of trade. About 7.36 per cent of the population was engaged in trade and commerce in 1951.

In 1967 the main articles of export from this district were ghee potatoes, fruits, timber, medicinal herbs, soyabean, limestone and resin, while food-grains, jaggery, sugar, salt, spices, matches, tobacco, kerosene oil, piece-goods, metal and cloth are the main articles of import.

Exports and Imports

Exports—Timber, potatoes, soyabean, herbs and resin, are the main items of export, which find their way to the plains *via* Rishikesh. The value of exports of these commodities in 1966-67 is mentioned below :

Commodities	Value (in rupees)
Timber	15,00,000
Potatoes	50,000
Soyabean (black vatiety)	Not available
Herbs	45,500
Resin	12,00,000

Imports—Food-grains dominate the import pattern of the district and the value of imported food-grains for 1966-67 is mentioned below :

Commodities	Value (in rulees)
Rice	31,36,952·43
Wheat	25,60,048·70
Jowar	1,21,331·21
Gram	58,698·56
Bajra	27,054·48

Coal, kerosene oil, and metal and other goods form the other main items of import. The imports for 1967 are mentioned below :

Commodities	Value (in rupees)
Coal	24,541
Kerosene oil	2,87,398
Metal and other goods	40,000

Trade Centres—The main trading centre of the district is Tehri town which caters to the need of some parts of the district. The bulk of the

trade is, however, carried on from Rishikesh and Dehra Dun which are also the nearest railheads and important trade centres, adjoining the district. Devaprayag, Kirti Nagar and Narendra Nagar, are also developing into centres of trade. In addition to food-grains, vegetables (mainly potatoes and onions), and goods manufactured in the district are also sold in these centres.

There are *mandis* (wholesale markets) for food-grains and potatoes at Tehri, Kirti Nagar and Devaprayag. Imported and locally procured food-grains and potatoes are sold to petty shopkeepers and village traders. Woollen goods, shoes (of wool and leather), furniture, agricultural implements, lime, *ringal* goods, utensils of brass and copper, and books and publications are also available for sale in these markets.

Fair-price Shop—The hill provising scheme is in operation in the district. Supply of food-grains at concessional rates under the scheme is arranged for the benefit of the poor and the needy. It also prevents undue rise in the prices of these commodities in the open market. In 1967, there were poor arrivals of food-grains through normal trade channels, but government supply arrangements under this scheme kept in check the undue rise in prices in the market.

Six storage-cum-issue godowns exist at Tehri, Chamba, Bhaldiyana, Devaprayag, Kirti Nagar and Lambgaon. In 1967, the quantities issued for sale from these godowns were 54,891 quintals of wheat, 25,975 quintals of rice, 50,791 quintals of atta, and 33,792 quintals of coarse food-grains.

The sale of the government food-grains is arranged through fair-price shops. There were 118 fair-price shops in the district in 1968. The authorities appoint traders to run these shops in conformity with the rules laid down from time to time. Imported and locally procured food-grains are sold at these shops.

Fairs—A list of fairs that are held in the district is given in Table XI of the Appendix. They are mainly of religious origin and their commercial importance is limited. Potatoes, *ringal* goods, woollen goods (carpets and shawls), honey, and shoes are sold in these fairs and the total annual sale does not exceed Rs 1,00,000. However, in the winter season a large number of traders from the district of Uttar Kashi come down to Tehri, Devaprayag and other places and sell woollen goods, herbs, etc., and buy food-grains, salt, cotton cloth, and utensils in the fairs.

Trade Associations

The Vyopar Mandal, Tehri has its headquarters at Tehri and it gives technical and legal advice, regarding sales tax, income-tax, octroi, imports and exports. Its members are local dealers in food-grains, timber, potatoes and forest products.

Weights and Measures

Before the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures, *don* and *nali,* equivalent to about 30 kilograms and 2 kilograms respectively were in use. The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the district on October 1, 1960.



CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

Trade Routes And Highways—Old And New

The region covered by the present district of Tehri Garhwal, lies to the south of Uttar Kashi district, which has in it several ancient and important places of Hindu pilgrimage, such as Yamunotri, Gangotri, Gomukh and Uttar Kashi. These sacred places have been drawing to them a multitude of devout pilgrims from different parts of India since early times. Many of the routes followed by these pilgrims pass through this district. These routes and the passes in the neighbouring districts of Chamoli and Uttar Kashi were also used by the traders for internal and external trade.

The pilgrims from the plains followed the road from Rishikesh along the valley of the Ganga to reach Devaprayag, from where they proceeded to Tehri situated at a distance of about 80 km. from Devaprayag. From Tehri this route led to Dharasu in district Uttar Kashi, the distance between the two places being 43.2 km. From Dharasu one route went to Gangotri *via* Uttar Kashi, and the other led to Yamunotri. The journey which started from Rishikesh, was across numerous gorges, steep climbs, lofty mountains and forests, full of dangerous animals. The paths were narrow and littered with stones. The journey to these places was considered very perilous and only old persons used to undertake the risk of making the journey. "The more the tribulation, the more the degree of salvation" was the prevailing concept with regard to this pilgrimage. However, the local people made every endeavour to reduce the hardship of the pilgrims. *Chattis* (halting and resting places) were maintained all along the pilgrim routes at intervals of 1 to 8 km. A *chatti* was like a verandah, with arrangements for cooking, and a shop which supplied provisions at reasonable prices. The pilgrims welcomed the security of the *chattis* where they rested before continuing the journey. With the construction of motorable roads *chattis* have disappeared and now they exist only within a distance of about 65 km. from Badrinath and Kedarnath.

The first bridle-road was constructed between Devaprayag and Kirti Nagar in 1896. The development of the existing bridle-paths into bridle-roads was accelerated after 1920. Tehri was linked with Devaprayag and Pratap Nagar (tahsils of the district) and with Srinagar in Pauri Garhwal *via* Devaprayag and Kirti Nagar. Other roads connected Tehri with Mussoorie, Bhilung, Trijuginarayan, Tholdhar, and the road from Tehri to Pratapnagar was extended to Sukham *via* Sera. In the course of the

development of the bridle-roads, the engineers and local masons evolved their own technique of making bridges, which are generally of shorter spans than those in the plains.

Trail, the commissioner of Kumaon (1815—1835) divided the bridges as he found them. The first, consisted of a single spar thrown across from bank to bank; the second was formed of successive layers of timber, the upper gradually projecting beyond the lower from either bank towards each other, in the form of an arch, until the interval in the centre was sufficiently reduced to admit of a single timber being thrown across the upper-most layers, the ends of the projecting timbers being secured in the stone piers. These bridges, called Sangas, were usually from 2 to 3 timbers wide, and sometimes had a railing on either side. The third kind of bridge, called the Jhula, was constructed of ropes, two sets of cables being stretched across the river and the ends were secured in the banks, the roadway consisting of slight ladders of wood two feet in breadth, suspended parallel to the cables by ropes about 3 feet in length. The horizontal cables formed a balustrade to support the passenger, while reaching from one step of the ladders to another. To make the Jhula practicable for goats and sheep, the interstices of the ladders were sometimes filled up with twigs. A construction of this kind necessarily required a high bank on both sides, and where this evident advantage was wanting, the deficiency of height was supplied by wooden gallows, erected on the two banks over which the ends of the cables were passed. The fourth and most simple bridge consisted merely of a single cable stretched across the stream, to which was suspended a basket by a wooden ring. The passenger or baggage is placed in this basket which is drawn across by a man on the opposite side by means of a rope attached to the bottom. This is termed a *chhinka*. The ropes used were made of a silky species of grass (*babar*) which grows in abundance in the region.

The bridle-roads were further improved and some of them metalled, and the Rishikesh-Tehri and the Rishikesh-Devaprayag roads had been made suitable for heavy vehicular traffic by 1934. The Devaprayag-Kirti Nagar and the Tehri-Dharasu roads had been improved and metalled by 1940. There were 256 km. of metalled roads and only about 112 km. of unmetalled roads in the district in 1947. Besides the forest department maintained about 400 km. of bridle-paths and the Tehri-Mussoorie bridle-road.

In the First five-year Plan period the curves on the roads of the district were widened for the smooth running of vehicular traffic and the breast walls and the retaining walls were improved or constructed. Particular attention was paid to the Rishikesh-Tehri-Dharasu road, the Tehri-Ghonti road and the Rishikesh-Kirti Nagar road.

In the Second Five-year Plan period the Devaprayag-Tehri bridle-road was metalled and opened to vehicular traffic. This road has connected Devaprayag with Tehri, and also with Srinagar in Garhwal. Other roads constructed, metalled and bridged in this Plan were the Bhaldiyana-Lambgaon road and the Ghansali-Ghuttu road. The former crosses the Bhagirathi at Bhaldiyana by a girder bridge which was constructed at a cost of Rs 2,25,000. The Ghansali-Ghuttu road opened forests in the interior facilitating the transport of fuel, timber and herbs from them. The pilgrims proceed to Kedarnath by the Ghansali-Kedarnath road. The Tehri-Dharasu, the Tehri-Ghonti and the Rishikesh-Kirti Nagar roads were widened and improved. A bridge was also constructed over the river Alaknanda on the Kirti Nagar-Srinagar road.

In the Third Five-year Plan period about 592 km. of bridle-roads were constructed.

Highways

The roads of the district are generally classified as national and provincial highways, district roads and village roads. The Central Government is responsible for meeting the expenditure on the maintenance of the national highways, the State government on that of the provincial highways and the major district roads, and the Zila Parishad on that of other district and village roads. The other local bodies maintain the roads situated within their own jurisdictions. The forest department also maintains a number of roads.

National Highways—The Rishikesh-Kirti Nagar is the only national highway in the district, its total length within the district being 101.60 km. It enters the district in the south from Rishikesh, runs almost parallel to the Ganga and reaches Devaprayag after crossing the Bhagirathi. From Devaprayag the road proceeds along the Alaknanda and reaches Kirti Nagar, and after crossing the river it enteres the district of Garhwal. This road touches the south and the south-eastern parts of tahsil Devaprayag and the district. The average width of the road is 6.09 m., and the metalled surface in the middle is 3.64 m. wide.

Provincial Highways—The district is served by 3 provincial highways, which are metalled, bridged and drained throughout, their total length being 163.20 km. in the district. The Rishikesh-Tehri road is 74.40 km. in length and it climbs the hills at Muni-ki-Reti and reaches Narendra Nagar after covering a distance of 17.6 km. Beyond Narendra Nagar the road reaches a height of 1661 m. at Chamba and again comes down to 700 m. at Tehri. The Tehri-Dharasu road is 37.20 km. in length in the district and reaches a height of 914.00 m. at Nagon before entering the district of Uttar Kashi. The road passes through Bhaldiyana (which is linked with Lambgaon), and traverses the Devaprayag and the Tehri

tahsils. The Tehri-Kirti Nagar road is 49.60 km. in length and passes through tahsils Pratapnagar and Devaprayag running in the south-eastern direction towards Kirti Nagar. The road follows the river Bhillangana up to Gadolaya and then turns south-east and meets the national highway at Malaitha. The distance between Malaitha and Kriti Nagar is about 7 km. and is covered by the national highway.

Other Roads—The district is also served by a number of metalled and unmetalled roads which are mainly under the charge of the public works department, the forest department and the Zila Parishad. The public works department maintains the following local metalled roads.

Name of the road	Length (in km.)
1. Approach road to public works department inspection house at Narendra Nagar	1·20
2. Tehri Bazar by-pass	0·951
3. Approach road to Suman Hospital, Narendra Nagar ..	0·814
4. Old motor Stand, Tehri	0·616
5. Ghansali-Tilwara	70·01
Total ..	73,591

A number of bridle-roads maintained by the public works department have been repaired and opened to vehicular traffic. A list of such roads is given below :

Road	Length (in km.)
Tehri-Devaprayag	52·49
Chamba-Mussoorie	36·98
Tehri-Ghansali	32·18
Ghansali-Ghuttu	27·35
Bhaldiyana-Lambgaon (*via* Tholdhar)	21·92
Kirti Nagar-Badiyargad	12·87
Narendra Nagar town road	0·973
Approach road to public health centre at Kirti Nagar	0·923
Lachhman Jhula Bridge road	0·438
Feeder roads to suspension bridge at Tehri	6·43
Total ..	192·504

There are other bridle-roads maintained by the public works department used only by foot passengers and pack animals. Generally these roads are dangerous because they negotiate steep climbs and are narrow (about 1 m. in width). However, as they cut down the distance between different

places the pedestrian traffic and the pack animals generally use them. The following statement gives a list of such roads :

Road	Length (in km.)
Maldewal-Kadukhal	47.40
Jakholi-Bhiri	38.62
Kirti Nagar-Sera	25.74
Tehri-Mussoorie	20.92
Bhalliyna-Lambgaon	9.65
Narendra Nagar-Muni-ki-Reti	4.82
Total ..	147.15

The forest department maintains about 730 km. of bridle-roads and 37 km. of motorable roads in the broad belt of forests extending from east to west. In the nineteenth century large parts of the district were covered with dense forests and foot-paths known as forest inspection paths were used for communication. Gradually the forests were cleared for cultivation and consequently the length of forest paths also decreased. However, a number of these paths came to be developed into bridle-roads since the thirties of this century. The forest rest-houses are served by the bridle-roads. Of late tourists also visit these forest areas and the facility of using these rest-houses is available to them on payment of nominal charges.

The Zila Parishad maintains a number of bridle roads, which generally connect the various *pattis*. Most of them are unsuitable for vehicular traffic with the exception of the Tehri-Pratapnagar road, which is open for jeeps, cars and small buses. Pratapnagar being a tahsil headquarter, is connected with Tehri by this road which is likely to be converted into a metalled road. The following statement gives a list of bridle-roads maintained by the Zila Parishad, Tehri Garhwal, Tehri :

Name of the road	Length (in km.)
Gular-Palkot	35.40
Chamba-Bhaldiyana	35.40
Ghonti-Budhekedar	37.57
Pratapnagar-Mukhem	28.56
Thatyuar-Masrasi	28.56
Suwakholi-Thatyuar	25.74
Kandal-Ghonti	22.53
Kirti Nagar-Dharidhundsir	22.53
Jakholi-Laini	20.92
Supana-Chiledi	20.92
Ghansali-Akhori	19.31
Tehri-Pratapnagar	14.48
Chamba-Dharam Ghat	14.48
Kempti-fall-road	6.43
Total	325.83

Tahsil Pratapnagar which lies in the northern part of the district is highly inaccessible and people living in remote villages take many days to reach Tehri.

Modes of Conveyance

The means of conveyance used in the past were sheep, goats, ponies, horses, and mules. The sheep used were of a sturdy, long-legged Tibetan stock bearing no resemblance to the diminutive animals of the plains. The goats were also stout shaggy animals imported from Western Himalyas Sheep are now mainly reared for their wool and goats are used as pack animals in the lower and upper reaches of the district. Ponies were imported from Tibet but since 1962 ponies of good strain are imported from the plains. *Chamba* bucks are imported from Himachal Pradesh and they have improved the quality of local goats. The use of these bucks for purposes of breeding is allowed to interested breeders at Rs 5 per buck.

The goods meant for transport are put in bags made of hempen sack cloth or worsted lined with leather. The bags are strapped on to the animals. A goat carries a load of about 20 kg., a pony or a mule about 110 kg. Porters also carry goods and they are available in large numbers at Tehri. Horses were extensively used for riding till about the thirties of this century. They were available in the state stables and stallions were maintained at government cost for breeding horses of good strain. However this speedy means of conveyance has been relegated to the background by the motor vehicles. Horses are used by the police and a few rich persons only.

The pace of trade has considerably increased since 1934 with the construction of motor-roads between Rishikesh and Dharasu, Rishkesh and Kirti Nagar, and Kirti Nagar and Tehri. A couple of such roads have been constructed since 1960 and passengers and goods move faster and in larger numbers and in and out of the district, the Rishikesh-Tehri-Dharasu road being the busiest. Private buses and trucks ply in convoys and each convoy consists of 5 or 6 buses and 5 or 6 trucks. Four such convoys start from Rishikesh, and four from Dharasu, daily. However, there is one-way traffic on the Narendra Nagar-Tehri-Dharasu route enforced through the gate system, which is regulated by the regional transport authority. Breaches of the regulations are punishable. The convoys cross each other at fixed places, so as to avoid blocking the main road while moving in the opposite directions. One-way traffic is also enforced on the Tehri-Ghansali, the Tehri-Ghonti, the Tehri-Kirti Nagar, the Kirti Nagar-Badiyargad and the Tehri-Pratapnagar routes. The last is a bridle-road and only 1.82 m., in breadth. Usually two buses ply on this road daily. A large influx of passengers is noticed on the Rishikesh-Kirti Nagar and the Kirti Nagar-Tehri routes in the Yatra (pilgrimage)

season in the summer and a majority of them are either tourists or pilgrims.

Motor vehicles operating in this district belong to two private companies, which formed a union known as the Yatayat Paryatan Vikas Sangh, at Muni-ki-Reti, in 1961-62. The buses and trucks are owned by the Tehri Garhwal Motor Owners' Union, Tehri, and the Ganga Transport Company, Rishikesh. The roads in this district have not been nationalised and only a few U. P. Government Roadways buses ply on them. However, 10 taxis and 97 private buses plied on the roads of the district in 1965. The following fare rates were in force in the district in 1966 :

	Metalled roads-fare rate per head, per Km.	Unmetalled roads-fare rate per head per Km.
Upper Class or taxi	7 paise	7·63 paise
Lower Class	4·8 paise	5·45 paise

A toll tax has to be paid by passengers when entering the limits of the notified areas in the district by motor vehicle. It is collected by the conductor of the bus with the fare.

Tehri is the only urban centre of the district, where the number of cycles registered was 50 in 1967. Generally people do not like to ride cycles in the hills due to slopes and inclines. In addition 5 tongas and 32 carts were registered in 1967 in Tehri. Private cars and government vehicles belonging to different departments also occasionally ply on the twisting and climbing roads of the district .

Goods Traffic

With the inception of motorable roads, since 1934 goods in bulk are moved by motor trucks. However, pack animals continue to be useful on bridle-roads and bridle-paths as they are able to negotiate narrow and steep paths and openings. Incoming and outgoing goods are carried from and to Hardwar or Rishikesh both being stations on the Northern Railway. Goods are also transported from Rishikesh by motor trucks which take either the Rishikesh-Tehri road or the Rishikesh-Devaprayag-Kirti Nagar road. From Tehri some of the goods are transported to Pratapnagar. Mainly food-grains, kerosene, coal, general merchandise, cotton cloth and garments, drugs and metalware are imported into the district. The exports chiefly comprise timber, timber goods, herbs, Ayurvedic medicines, resin, soyabean and potatoes. In the past timber, sawn into sleepers used to be transported only by river, in the summer season down the hills to Raiwala near Rishikesh. Motor trucks on the other hand, carry logs all the year round, and with the development of better roads they are

reaching inaccessible areas of the forests. Soyabean (black variety) is transported to Rishikesh as raw material for making drugs. The demand for soyabean (black variety) has been steadily rising since 1966.

About 80 private carriers are operating in the district. The freight rates vary from 7 paise to 7.5 paise and from 6.5 paise to 7 paisa per km. per quintal for unmetalled roads and metalled roads respectively. On the average a truck carries about 38 quintals.

Waterways, Ferries and Bridges

Waterways—The Bhagirathi, the Bhillangana and the Alaknanda are the main rivers, that carry timber — in the form of sleepers, downstream to the plains. The branches and barks of the felled trees are removed and the trunks are sawn by hand into rectangular 2.13 m. lengths known as sleepers. The sleepers are brought to the rivers when there is enough water in the summer season, made into rafts, each raft comprising about 20 sleepers, and floated down. The rafts are guided by skilled men and rescued when stranded, all along their journey. Some of the rafts are dismantled at Devaprayag and transported by trucks, while others continue their onward journey to Railwala, timber depot. The Government has posted a sleeper passing officer at Railwala who supervises the traffic of sleepers and detains sleepers which have been damaged or are below the specified standard. Sleepers worth Rs 13,64,700 were floated down the rivers in 1967.

Ferries—The rivers in the district generally negotiate precipitous falls and steep declivities and boats, therefore, do not usually ply on them. However, boats cross the river Alaknanda at Chauras and Malaitha near the Garhwal border. Near Rishikesh, river Ganga is crossed by boats at Swargashrma, Geetabhawan, Tama Khani, Parmarthaniketan and Muni-ki-Reti. All these ferries are under the management of the Zila Parishad, Tehri Garhwal, and they generally operate only in the summer season.

Bridges—The public works department has been constructing new bridges as well as repairing or renovating the old bridges since 1960. An average bridge in this tract is small in length (generally less than 80 m.) and has usually one span. The construction of a bridge in the hilly regions requires less time and money than one in the plains, but is naturally more hazardous.

Suspension bridges are a special feature of this tract. In the construction of suspension bridges two sets of cables are stretched across the river and their ends are secured in the banks, the roadway consists of flat pieces of wood, lashed a step apart, from each other, as in ladder, and suspended at right angles to the cables by ropes. The horizontal cables from a balustrade to support the passenger, while stepping from one piece of wood to another. In the modern bridges the ladder-like steps are also

secured by means of cables to the opposite banks. A construction of this kind necessarily requires high banks on both sides of the river, but where the advantage is wanting the deficiency in height is supplied by wooden or steel gallows erected on the two banks over which the ends of the cables are passed and secured. The oldest suspension bridge in the district was constructed at Tehri on the Bhagirathi in 1858 on the Tehri-Mussoorie bridle-path. This was however, replaced by a steel girder bridge in 1962-63. The bridge is maintained by the public works department. In addition 11 suspension bridges are also maintained by the department. Six of these bridges, viz., those at Bagwan, Bakhliar, Devaprayag, Ghansali, Lachhman Jhula and Singtali were constructed by the ruler of the erstwhile Tehri-Garhwal state. The other bridges were constructed in the Second and Third Five-year Plans. The lengths of the bridges vary from 33 m. to 80.77 m. The following statement gives the location of each suspension bridge and the name of the river it spans.

Location	River
Bagwan	Alaknanda
Bakhliar	Ganga
Lachhman Jhula	Ganga
Devaprayag	Bhagirathi
Ghansali	Bhillangana
Singtali	Ganga
Chamiyala	Balganga
Pokhar	Bhillangana
Siraon	Bhagirathi
Chham	Ditto
Kotishwar	Ditto

The public works department also maintains 27 cement-concrete and girder bridges in the district. These bridges are built of reinforced cement concrete or steel girders. Each bridge has one span and the lengths of the bridges vary from 3 m. to 70 m.

The Zila Parishad maintains 10 major bridges and a large number of small bridges and culverts. Seven of the bridges are made of cement-concrete and the rest of steel girders. Each cement-concrete or girder bridge has one span, and their lengths vary from 3 m. to 10 m. On the average the breadth of a bridge is about 2.43 m.

The roads in the jurisdiction of the forest department are bridged and drained throughout. The widths of forest roads and bridges are about 0.9 m. and 1.2 m. respectively. The bridges are built of logs, which are project from one bank to the other. The ends of the logs are secured in stone piers. The average length of a bridge is about 4 m. The forest department maintains 36 wooden bridges on its roads.

Travel Facilities

Dharmsalas exist at a number of places in the district, particularly at Tehri, Devaprayag, Narendra Nagar, Dhanolti and Kanatal. The dharmsalas at the two last-mentioned places are managed by the Kali Kamliwala Kshetra which has its headquarters at Rishikesh and was founded by the late Swami Vishuddhanand in 1883. He used to put on a black blanket (*kali kamli*), hence he was called Baba Kali Kamliwala. In addition a large number of dharmsalas, *gaushalas*, dispensaries and other charitable and religious institutions are maintained by the same institution in the Garhwal Division. These dharmsalas cater to the pilgrims. The dharmsala at Narendra Nagar, built by the ex-ruler of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state in 1959, however, provides accommodation for other visitors including government servants on tour. It is situated at a convenient place just above the bus stop and the market, and below the collectorate. It has modern sanitary fittings and is well-managed.

Hotels, which provide board and lodging, are to be found at Narendra Nagar, Tehri, Devaprayag and Pratapnagar. Tehri has the largest number of hotels. The charges for board vary from Rs 3 to Rs 5 per day and for lodging from Rs 2 to Rs 5 per day. A list of hotels and dharmsalas appears in Table XIV of the Appendix.

There are a number of inspection houses and rest-houses in the district, which are chiefly maintained for the use of the departmental officers by the public works and the forest departments. Officers of other departments and private persons may also be given accommodation if they are vacant. The Zila Parishad maintains a dak-bungalow at Tehri. A list of rest-houses and inspection houses is given in Table XIII of the Appendix.

Post and Telegraphs and Telephones

Post-offices—A service of runners was instituted in 1886 in the area now covered by the district and the rajas' Government levied a cess called the Dak-cess and introduced a postal service which was gradually extended to different pattis.

Since 1950 a large number of post-offices have been set up in the district and their number in 1968 was 95. A list of post-offices is given in the Table XV of the Appendix.

Telegraph offices and public call offices are located at Chamba, Kirti Nagar, Narendra Nagar and Sivanandanagar. There is another telegraph office at Pratapnagar.

Broadcast Receivers

Radio listening sets have become popular and their number is on the increase. As many, 1,543 licences were on record in 1966-67.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The ratio of workers to non-workers in the district is as 64.5 is to 35.5. The non-workers comprise the persons along with their dependants, engaged in non-productive work whether having an income or not. Of the total population 60.0 per cent are employed as agricultural workers (cultivators 59.8 per cent and agricultural labourers 0.2 per cent). The next largest number is of the workers who figure in household industry and other manufacturing processes and jointly claim 1.7 per cent, whereas workers employed in other services account for another 1.7 per cent. In other categories the number of workers is small. The extent of female participation as workers is significant as they form a higher percentage (37.5) than male workers (27.0) as related to the total population of the district.

The following statement gives occupational analysis under different divisions of persons engaged in productive activities other than cultivation :

Occupational divisions	Workers		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Professional, technical and related workers ..	2,140	1,563	577
Administrative, executive and managerial workers	1,161	1,006	155
Clerical and related workers	1,327	603	724
Sales workers	862	500	362
Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers	2,032	1,964	68
Miners, quarrymen and related workers ..	125	120	5
Workers in transport and communications ..	341	273	68
Craftsmen, production process workers and labourers not elsewhere classified	6,065	5,785	280
Service, sport and recreation workers ..	1,318	747	571
Workers not classified by occupation ..	78	28	50
Total ..	15,449	12,589	2,860

The occupational divisions when further analysed reveal the following big grouping of workers : tailors and dress and grament makers (1,952) ; blacksmiths, hammersmiths and forgemen (1,359) ; farmers, farm managers and those engaged in the rearing of animal. bird and

insect (752) ; and teachers of middle and primary schools (578). By industrial classification the largest number of workers is employed in making of textile garments including raincoats and headgear (1,919), followed by those in public services in administrative departments and offices of the State Goverment (1,627) and manufacture of sundry hardwares (1,350).

The district has the usual set-up of departments and offices of the State and Central Governments, local bodies, educational institutions, etc. The following statement gives the occupational analysis of persons at work in some of the occupations in these establishments :

Occupational analysis	Workers		
	Total	Male	Female
Administrators and executive officials of Central Government	347	347	..
Administrators and executive officials of State Government	253	251	2
Village officials	185	171	14
Book-keepers, cashiers and accounts clerks ..	296	296	..
Stenographers	20	16	4
Typists	73	71	2
Office machine operators	38	38	..
Clerical workers	564	564	..
Office attendants, ushers, hall porters, etc., not elsewhere classified	336	336	..
Drivers and firemen (railways)	8	8	..
Postmen	49	49	..

The employees of the Central and State Governments and of the local bodies have been granted certain amenities such as provident fund benefits, medical treatment, housing and dearness allowance, facilities to take loans from certain sources, etc. These employees are also permitted to form and join approved associations and unions to safeguard their service interests.

Learned Professions

Education—According to the census of 1961 there were 901 teachers (862 men and 39 women) in the district of whom 50 (10 being women) were employed in secondary schools, 578 (including 18 women) in senior and junior Basic schools and 273 (including 11 women) in other educational institutions.

In 1967 the total number of teachers (including headmasters, principals, lecturers, professors) in schools, colleges, training colleges, etc., was 1,299 under the State Government, 145 under the private managements and 4 under local bodies, the number of private tutors being nil. Teachers employed by the private institutions enjoy the benefits provided by the State Government under the Triple Benefit Scheme (provident fund, insurance and pension). Those serving government institutions enjoy the usual benefits of an employee of the State Government.

Medicine—In 1961 there were 41 (including 2 women) physicians, surgeons and dentists in the district. There were also 22 nurses (3 being men), 50 pharmacists and other medical and health technicians, and 27 veterinarians.

In December, 1967, there were 9 allopathic doctors, 36 *vaids*, 3 homoeopaths and 18 compounders under the employment of the State Government.

There are about 100 registered *vaids*.

Law—In 1961 there 57 persons associated with the profession of law and justice. They included legal practitioners, advisers, magistrates and judges. In 1967 there were about 35 legal practitioners, 2 judges, 2 *munsifs* and 8 magistrates in the district.

There is also a bar association in the district to look after the interests of the members of the bar.

Engineering—According to the census of 1961 there were 222 architects, engineers and surveyors of whom 56 worked in the urban areas.

Domestic and Personal Services

Domestic Servants—Whole time domestic servants are employed only by a few well-to-do persons. With the increasing cost of living people prefer to employ part-time workers for doing domestic chores, payment being made monthly in cash or both in cash and kind.

According to the census of 1961, there were 289 (6 being women) butlers, bearers, waiters, maids and other servants (all domestic); 235 (2 being women) cooks, cook-cum-bearers (domestic and institutional); 128 (5 being women) house keepers, matrons, stewards (domestic and institutional) and 119 (including 5 women) gardeners.

Barbers—Barbers occupy an important position in the life of the country as their services are essential at such time as marriages and deaths. Formerly a barber acted as a go-between in marriage negotiations but now the practice is falling into disuse as the parents and guardians themselves make the negotiations. In rural areas the barber has more than professional status whereas in the towns and cities the relationship

between the barber and the customer is confined only to what is associated with the dressing of hair. In 1961, according to the census, there were 51 barbers, hairdressers and related workers of whom 30 were in urban areas.

Washermen—In villages most people do their own washing, a practice which has now been adopted by the townsfolk as well because of the rising prices as well as the unpunctual performance of the dhobis. Ironing of clothes is done either at home or by dhobis. There were in the district 24 launderers (including dhobis), dry cleaners and pressers in 1961, the launderers doing business mainly in the urban areas.

Tailors—In 1961 there were 1,952 tailors, dress and garment makers (590 being women) and 10 cutters, furriers and related workers (all men). In the rural areas tailoring is limited to simple cutting out and sewing of ordinary garments such as shirts, coats, pyjamas and blouses.

Other Occupations—In 1961, there were 1,031 directors, managers and working proprietors (wholesale and retail trade 515, manufacturing 92, construction 46, electricity, water, gas and sanitary 16, financial institutions 6 and others 356) ; 366 religious workers (ordained and non-ordained) ; 357 shoemakers and cobblers ; 330 carpenters, joiners and pattern makers ; 286 musicians, dancers and related workers ; 159 shop assistants, salesmen and related workers ; 109 drivers (motor vehicle and cycle 52, animal drawn vehicle 34, cycle-rickshaw and rickshaw pullers 8 and other drivers including bearers of palanquins and dolis 15) ; 104 postmen and messengers ; 45 bakers, confectioners, candy and sweetmeat makers ; 34 astrologers, palmists and related workers ; and 19 hawkers, pedlars and street vendors.

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CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Livelihood Pattern

Workers and Non-workers

The census of 1961 divides the entire population of the district into workers and non-workers. Actual workers were treated as workers while their dependants and those pursuing unproductive occupations were grouped as non-workers.

The workers have been classified, according to their primary work, into 9 livelihood classes (or industrial categories) as described below:

Livelihood Classes

I. Cultivators—persons who cultivate their own lands and supervise and direct labour hired for the purpose or manage tenanted land.

II. Agricultural labour—Persons working as agricultural labourers i.e. working for wages in cash or kind on land pertaining to others

III. Persons who are engaged in mining, quarrying, forestry, fishing, hunting and activities connected with live-stock, plantations, orchards and allied pursuits

IV. Persons engaged in household industry—This class of industry is run on a scale smaller than that of a registered factory by the head of a household himself or mainly by the members of one household with or without hired labour, mostly at their home in the urban areas and in premises which may occasionally extend to other parts of the village as well in the rural area

V. Persons engaged in the industries other than household industry

VI. Persons engaged in construction and maintenance of buildings, roads, bridges, dams, canals, etc.

VII. Persons engaged in trade and commerce, buying and selling, import and export, banking, insurance, stocks, shares, etc.

VIII. Persons engaged in the transport and warehousing industries and in postal, telegraphic, telephonic, wireless, information and broadcasting services

IX. Persons engaged in other services such as the public utility, administrative, educational and scientific, medical and health, religious, welfare, and legal services or those connected with business organisations as well as recreation and other personal and miscellaneous services.

The statements that follow give statistical information, which may be of some interest, regarding workers and non-workers of the district.



STATEMENT A

Distribution of Total Population of Tehri Garhwal district into Workers and Non-workers in 1961 :

	Livelihood Class	Population		
		Rural	Urban	Total
I	Male	79,735	40	79,775
	Female	1,28,256	22	1,28,278
	Total	2,07,991	62	2,08,053
II	Male	369	..	369
	Female	304	..	304
	Total	673	..	673
III	Male	1,594	13	1,607
	Female	20	4	24
	Total	1,614	17	1,631
IV	Male	3,840	98	3,938
	Female	1,425	7	1,432
	Total	5,265	105	5,370
V	Male	275	118	393
	Female	17	..	17
	Total	292	118	410
VI	Male	945	75	1,020
	Female	2	..	2
	Total	947	75	1,022
VII	Male	508	283	791
	Female	19	22	41
	Total	527	305	832
VIII	Male	302	115	417
	Female	1	..	1
	Total	303	115	418
IX	Male	3,477	2,036	5,513
	Female	164	89	253
	Total	3,641	2,125	5,766

Livelihood Class	Population		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Total Workers—			
Male	91,045	2,778	93,823
Female	1,30,208	144	1,30,352
Total	2,21,253	2,922	2,24,175
Non-workers—			
Male	62,018	2,068	64,086
Female	56,869	2,606	59,475
Total	1,18,887	4,674	1,23,561
Total Population—			
Male	1,53,063	4,846	1,57,909
Female	1,87,077	2,750	1,89,827
Total	3,40,140	7,596	3,47,736

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STATEMENT B

Percentage Distribution of Total Population into Workers and Non-workers in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Tehri Garhwal district	Uttar Pradesh
I	59·8	25·0
II	0·2	4·4
III	0·5	0·2
IV	1·6	2·4
V	0·1	1·1
VI	0·3	0·3
VII	0·2	1·4
VIII	0·1	0·5
IX	1·7	3·7
Total workers—		
Male	27·0	30·5
Female	37·5	8·6
Total	64·5	39·1
Non-workers—		
Male	18·4	21·9
Female	17·1	39·0
Total	35·5	60·9
Total Population—		
Male	45·4	52·4
Female	54·6	47·6
Total	100·0	100·0

STATEMENT C

Tahsilwise Distribution of Total Population into Workers and Non-workers in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Tahsil			District
	Devaprayag	Pratapnagpr	Tehri	Total
I	89,562	62,720	55,771	2,08,053
II	219	41	413	673
III	721	252	658	1,631
IV	2,573	1,037	1,760	5,370
V	119	40	251	410
VI	421	136	465	1,0 22
VII	242	140	450	832
VIII	157	67	194	418
IX	2,716	688	2,362	5,766
Total workers	95,730	65,121	62,324	2,24,175
Non-workers	56,106	32,384	35,071	1,23,561
Total population	1,52,836	97,505	97,395	3,47,736

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STATEMENT D

Workers and Non-workers Classified by Age-groups in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Age-group					Total
	0—14	15—34	35—59	60 and above	Age not stated	
I	26,244	92,182	74,528	15,091	8	2,08,053
II	45	328	267	32	..	673
III	33	1,117	461	20	..	1,631
IV	332	2,551	2,088	399	..	5,370
V	10	250	126	24	..	410
VI	14	558	421	29	..	1,022
VII	8	360	396	68	..	832
VIII	5	251	151	11	..	418
IX	251	3,582	1,781	151	1	3,766
Total workers ..	26,942	1,01,179	80,219	15,826	9	2,24,175
Total non-workers	1,04,092	8,584	2,908	7,964	13	1,23,561
Total population	1,31,034	1,09,763	83,127	23,790	22	3,47,736

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STATEMENT E

Workers and Non,workers Classified according to Educational Level in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Illiterate		Literate (without educational level)		Primary junior Basic Bpsic		Matric lation (or higher secondary and above		Others	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
I	1,80,760	46	20.658	8	6,090	3	483	2	..	3
II	670	..	3	..	...	...	...	...	..	..
III	830	11	399	2	279	2	106	2	..	..
IV	4,502	33	655	41	108	25	...	4	..	2
V	127	36	91	30	54	48	20	3	..	1
VI	730	33	238	16	59	2	20	12	..	12
VII ..	80	44	265	110	156	97	26	43	..	11
VIII ..	75	75	98	20	110	8	20	10	..	2
IX ..	814	316	713	429	1,337	559	757	546	..	275
Total workers ..	1,88,488	594	23,120	656	8,213	744	1,432	622	..	306
Total Nonworkers ..	1,00,953	2,087	13,618	1,077	4,028	1,152	288	305	..	53
Total population	2,89,441	2,681	1,733		12,241	1,896	1,720	927	..	350

STATEMENT F

Percentage Distribution of Workers in each Livelihood Class as related to Total Number of Workers in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Tehri Garhwal District	Uttar Pradesh
I	92·9	63·9
II	0·3	11·3
III	0·7	0·6
IV	2·4	6·2
V	0·2	2·8
VI	0 4	0·7
VII	0·4	3·7
VIII	0·2	1·4
IX	2·5	9·4
Total workers	100·0	100·0

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STATEMENT G

Distribution of every 1,000 Males/Females into Workers and Non-workers in District/U. P. in 1961 :

Livelihood class		Rural		Urban		Total	
		Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh
I	Male	521	424	8	26	505	370
	Female	686	133	8	3	676	117
II	Male	2	60	..	6	2	53
	Female	1	40	..	1	2	35
III	Male	11	3	3	5	10	4
	Female	..	1	1	..	..	1
IV	Male	25	33	20	42	25	34
	Female	8	13	3	16	8	14
V	Male	2	8	24	97	3	20
	Female	..	1	..	3	..	1
VI	Male	6	3	16	17	6	5
	Female	..	..	..	..	..	..
VII	Male	3	14	58	102	5	26
	Female	..	2	8	5	..	2
VIII	Male	2	5	24	48	3	10
	Female	..	..	..	..	..	..
IX	Male	23	42	420	174	35	60
	Female	1	9	32	25	1	11
Workers	Male	595	592	573	517	594	582
	Female	696	199	52	53	687	181
	Total	650	403	385	310	645	391
Non-workers	Male	405	408	427	483	406	418
	Female	304	801	948	947	313	819
	Total	350	597	615	690	355	609

It would thus appear that of the total population of the district, 64.5 per cent is economically active. Of the total male population 59.4 per cent and of the total female population 68.7 per cent are working. The district of Tehri Garhwal has the second highest proportion of female workers in the State, Chamoli district having the highest percentage, 69.2. In the hill districts, female participation in economic activity is considerably high. The percentage of female workers is 68.3 in Uttar Kashi, 63.7 in Pithoragarh, 62.9 in Garhwal and 62.8 in Almora.

The above statement also reveal that of every 1,000 male 507 and of every 1,000 females 678 are engaged in agricultural activities. The number does not represent the proportion of the population dependent on agriculture as all the non-workers of all the 9 industrial categories (livelihood classes) have been grouped together.



STATEMENT H

Female Workers and Non-workers per 1,000 Males in Rural and Urban Areas of District/U. P. in 1961 :

Livelihood class	Rural		Urban		Total	
	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh
I ..	1,609	290	330	140	1,608	289
II	824	609	..	144	824	602
III	13	187	308	83	15	166
IV	371	378	71	305	364	366
V	62	68	..	23	43	39
VI	2	19	..	19	2	19
VII	37	102	78	36	52	67
VIII	3	9	..	6	2	7
IX	47	218	44	115	46	177
Workers ..	1,430	311	52	84	1,389	283
Non-workers ..	917	1,814	1,260	1,592	928	1,779
Population per 1,000 males ..	1,222	924	567	812	1,202	909

Agricultural Workers—According to the census of 1961, the number of agricultural workers is 2,08,726 of whom 2,08,053 are cultivators and 673 agricultural labourers.

STATEMENT I

Percentage of Agricultural Workers to Total Number of Workers (each sex=100) in District/U. P. in 1961 :

Agricultural workers		Percentage	
		Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh
Cultivators ..	.. Total	92·9	63·9
	Male	85·0	63·6
	Female	98·4	64·8
Agricultural labourers	.. Total	0·3	11·3
	Male	0·4	9·1
	Female	0·2	19·2
All agricultural workers	Total	93·2	75·2
	Male	85·4	72·7
	Female	98·6	84·0

In 1961 of the total working force in the district 93.2 per cent was made up of agricultural workers the cultivators being 92.9 per cent and the agricultural labourers 0.3 per cent. About 98 per cent of the total female working force and about 85 per cent of the total male working force were engaged in agricultural pursuits only. Approximately there was one agricultural labourer for every 331 workers in the district, against one agricultural labourer for every nine and every six workers in the State and the country respectively.

In rural areas the percentage of agricultural workers (cultivators and agricultural labourers) in 1961 followed a trend almost similar to that shown in Statement I.

STATEMENT J

Number of Agricultural Labourers per Hundred Cultivators :

Agricultural labourers	Tehri Garhwal	Uttar Pradesh
	1961	1961
Total	0.3	18
Male	0.2	11
Female	0.1	7

STATEMENT K

Number of Female Cultivators per Hundred Male Cultivators :

Tract	1961
Tehri Garhwal district	161
Uttar Pradesh	29

STATEMENT L

Number of Cultivators and Agricultural Labourers for every Hundred Ploughs/Carts in 1961 :

Agricultural workers	Per hundred ploughs	Per hundred carts
Cultivators	301	There are no carts in the district
Agricultural labourers	1	Ditto

Non-workers– The statement that follows gives the distribution of the number of non-workers of the district according to the 8 categories adopted in the census of 1961 :

STATEMENT

Categories of non-working population	District		Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Full-time students	19,154	1,553	17,878	997	1,276	556
Persons engaged only in household duties	..	5,785	..	4,448	..	1,337
Dependents, infants and disabled persons	44,560	51,936	43,827	51,234	733	702
Retired persons and people of independent means	76	16	43	15	33	1
Beggars, vagrants, etc. ..	152	136	152	129	..	7
Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions ..	57	45	47	42	10	3
Persons seeking employment for first time	66	3	59	3	7	..
Persons unemployed and seeking work	21	1	12	1	9	..
Total ..	64,086	59,475	62,018	56,869	2,068	2,606

General Level of Prices and Wages

Prices

The principal occupation is agriculture but it is almost entirely dependent on the rains. The production is, however, low and the district always remains a deficit area. Food-grains have to be imported, and their prices in the markets are, therefore, not affected materially by the local produce which is insufficient even for the agriculturists themselves. The fluctuations in the prices of food-grains, therefore, depend largely on the variations of the prices of food-grains prevailing in the markets of Rishikesh and Dehra Dun from where they are generally imported. In 1819 the approximate prices that ruled in the region were as follows:

Food-grains	Rates per rupee	
	Maunds	Seers
Wheat	1	25
Rice (coarse)	0	35
Rice (fine)	0	20
Rice (white)	0	30
Urd	1	00
Mandua	2	05
Barley	2	25

In 1863 barley was sold at about 1 maund for a rupee, milk 1 seer for 2 annas, honey 2.5 seers for a rupee, a large goat for Rs 5, a large sheep for Rs 4 and a small sheep for Rs 2 only. But the villagers were to dispose of the commodities at the following rates (in seers per rupee) to British officers who happened to visit the state : rice (coarse) 20, rice (Basmati) 6, atta 15, *marsa* (a hill millet) 40, *koda* 40, salt 8, ghee 2, oil 0.5, butter 2 and dal *urd* 16.

The average quinquennial prices from 1910-11 of wheat, rice (common) and gram during the years 1910-11 to 1949-50 are given in the following statement :

Quinquennium no.	Period	Rates (in rupees per seer)		
		Wheat	Rice (common)	Gram
1	1910-11 to 1914-15 ..	0.11	0.17	0.10
2	1915-16 to 1919-20 ..	0.21	0.27	0.20
3	1920-21 to 1924-25 ..	0.24	0.31	0.26
4	1925-26 to 1929-30 ..	0.21	0.23	0.25
5	1930-31 to 1934-35 ..	0.11	0.14	0.15
6	1935-36 to 1939-40 ..	0.13	0.16	0.17
7	1940-41 to 1944-45 ..	0.23	0.29	0.22
8	1945-46 to 1949-50 ..	0.61	0.71	0.58

The prices in the second quinquennium went up owing to the First World War and maintained a rising trend in the following quinquennium, the highest prices during that period being recorded in 1921-22. In the fourth quinquennium the prices showed a downward trend and in the fifth they recorded a further fall owing to world-wide economic depression. The prices then tended to stabilize but again went up due to the outbreak of the Second World War (1939–44).

In order to arrest the rising trend of prices control had to be imposed for the first time in 1942 on the prices of wheat which was fixed at Rs 8 per maund and later increased to Rs 11.75 in 1945 which remained in force till 1947 when the controls were withdrawn. The stocks with the wholesalers were taken up by the raja of Tehri Garhwal to cater to the need of his employees and for the use of the ruling family.

The control on food-grains was reimposed in 1948-49 and the erstwhile government of the state arranged to procure supplies from the Central and the State Governments. The trade was also allowed freedom to import for meeting additional requirements of the district.

In spite of all these measures the prices registered an average increase of about 320 per cent in the quinquennium ending with 1949-50 over those of the quinquennium ending with 1934-35. In view of this abnormal rise, the system of distribution of the food-grains on ration cards was introduced in the urban areas in July 1948. The sub-divisional magistrates and the tahsildars worked also as area and sub-area rationing officers and they were authorised to issue permits for food-grains for distribution in the rural areas. To maintain a regular supply of the food-grains into the rural areas a hill provisioning scheme was enforced in the district in 1949 under which wheat, rice and *bajra* were distributed in rural areas through the authorised retailers at concessional rates.

As a result of these measures and because of the State-wide fall in the prices of the food-grains in the quinquennium ending with 1954-55, the prices in the district also registered a fall of 19.6 per cent for wheat, 21.1 per cent for rice and 22.4 per cent for gram, the average yearly rates (per seer) prevailing during the period being Re 0.49 for wheat, Re 0.56 for rice and Re 0.45 for gram. The prices thereafter registered a continuous upward trend and in 1958-59 they rose to Re 0.68 per seer for wheat, Re 0.75 per seer for rice and Re 0.62 per seer for gram. In the years that followed, the prices drifted to still higher levels which stood at Re 0.75, Re 0.88 and Re 0.70 for wheat, rice (common) and gram respectively for a seer in 1961-62.

The following statement gives the prices of certain food grains from 1962-63 onwards:

Food-grains	(Rates (in Rs per kg)				
	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
Wheat	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.12	1.25
Rice (common)	1.15	1.12	1.12	1.25	1.50
Gram	0.88	0.88	0.88	1.00	1.50

The relief quota shops continued to function in the urban areas and under the hill provisioning scheme in the rural areas to sell certain food-grains at cheaper rates to the consumers to give them relief and to arrest the rising trend of the prices in the open market. The number of such shops was 80 in 1948-49 in the district and increased to 113 in 1956-57, to 201 in 1964-65 and to 418 in 1967-68.

The average yearly wholesale prices (in rupees per quintal) of certain commodities from 1962-63 onwards are given in the statement that follows :

Commodity	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
Wheat	98.0	98.0	98.0	110.0	170.0
Rice	110.0	110.0	110.0	122.0	188.0
Gram	86.0	86.0	86.0	98.0	145.0
Jaggery	60.3	65.0	100.0	160.0	250.0
Ghee	600.0	600.0	700.0	800.0	1,000.0
Mustard oil	85.0	175.0	405.0	375.0	470.0
Spices mixed	350.0	375.0	400.0	450.0	450.0
Kerosene oil (per tin) ..	9.62	10.47	10.47	12.65	13.62

Wages

Forced labour was in vogue in the district when it was under the rule of the rajas. There were definite rules according to which the labourers had to serve without receiving any wages. But those adults who were above 50 years in age or were physically unfit were exempted. In the latter case, however, it was necessary to obtain permission for exemption from the raja. Persons who were allowed to engage labourers without wages, when on tour, include the raja, the members of his family and his guests, the political agent and other political officers, *patwaris* and vaccinators. An employee of the state when touring at night was allowed a guide without any wages. The peons, postmen, road jamadar and constables (outside their head-quarters) were allowed to have meals free of charge when on duty ; the *patwaris* and *patrols* were, however, denied this facility.

The state employees had to pay four annas and a half (Re 0.28) per day per coolie for a load when the journey was of not more than 6 miles (9.6 km), when the journey was of more than 6 miles, an anna (Re 0.06) per mile to *dandi* coolie and four annas and a half to a coolie for a day's work which did not include any journey. When a coolie was engaged through a state order, he was given only an anna and a half per mile for a load weighing between 15 and 30 seers instead of the usual charges which were three times higher. Under no circumstances a coolie was to be given a load of more than 30 seers.

The wages of skilled and unskilled labour after the merger of the state with Uttar Pradesh are given in the following statement :

Year	Wages (per day in rupees)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1950	2.0	2.50
1955	2.50	3.00
1960	3.00	3.50
1967	3.50	4.00

The statement that follows indicates the form and period of payment, hours of work and rest intervals of agricultural labourers as obtaining in 1967 :

Occupation	Form of payment	Period of payment	Hours of work per day	Rest interval (in hours per day)	Wages (in rupees)
Blacksmithery ..	Cash	Daily	7	2	4.0
Carpentry ..	,,	,,	7	2	4.0
Irrigation ..	,,	,,	7	2	3.0
Ploughing ..	,,	,,	7	2	4.0
Reaping ..	,,	,,	7	2	4.0
Transplantation ..	,,	,,	7	2	3.0
Weeding ..	,,	,,	7	2	3.0

The wages for some occupations usually paid in the town of Tehri in 1967 are given in the statement below :

Type of worker	Unit of work/period	Usual wages (in Rs)
Barber	Per shave	0.25
	Per hair-cut	0.60
Blacksmith	Per day	3.50
Carpenter	Per day	4.0
Casual labourer	Per day	5.0
Chowkidar	Per month	75.0
Domestic servant	Per month (with food)	40.0
	Per month (without food)	70.0
Driver (motor-car)	Per month	150 0
Driver (truck)	Per month	150.0
Gardener	Per month	75.0
Herdsman	Per month (per cow)	5.0
	Per month (per buffalo) ..	7.0
Midwife	Per delivery	10.0
Porter	Per maund of load carried for a km. ..	0.30
Scavenger	Per month (for cleaning a latrine once a day)	1.20
Wood-cutter	Per maund of wood	1.00

General Level of Employment

Employment Exchange

An employment exchange at Narendra Nagar has been functioning in the district since October, 1957 to assist employment seekers (free of charge) in securing suitable employment in or outside the district and to help employers to obtain workers qualified to meet their requirements. Prior to the establishment of this exchange the people of the district were served by the employment exchange at Lansdowne (Garhwal).

The following statement gives certain particulars about the assistance rendered by the employment exchange, Narendra Nagar, from 1957 to 1966.

Year	Vacancies notified to exchange	Persons registered for employment	No. of persons provided with employment	No. on 'live register'
1957 ..	46	308	22	665
1958 ..	314	115	191	432
1959 ..	339	1,880	283	885
1960 ..	728	2,868	538	1,125
1961 ..	437	2,554	388	773
1962 ..	515	1,778	377	658
1963 ..	728	2,156	600	473
1964 ..	831	2,114	733	647
1965 ..	510	2,019	383	694
1966 ..	435	2,014	355	705

Employment Market Information

To collect data and information which would present a comprehensive picture of the general level of employment in the district and also of the demand and supply of labour an employment market information unit was set up by the Government in December, 1958, for the public sector. Its scope was later extended to the private sector also in 1964. The material is collected from enquiries made quarterly in the year.

Employment Trends

A statement showing the volume of employment in the district in both the private and the public sectors at the end of the quarter ending in December of each year under reference is given blow :

Industry	Number of reporting establishments		Number of employees					
			1965			1966		
	1965	1966	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing ..	4	4	..	612	612	..	616	616
Mining and quarrying ..	1	1	..	27	27	..	23	25
Manufacturing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Construction (of roads, etc.)	32	45	907	1,817	2,724	2,829	1,630	4,459
Trade and commerce	1	..	..	10	10	..	.	
Transport, storage and communications ..	2	1	87	13	100	..	12	12
Services ..	50	48	98	3,276	3,374	69	3,399	3,468
Total ..	110	99	1,092	5,735	6,847	2,898	5,682	8,580

Employers, Employers and Workers—According to the census of 1961, the number of employers, employees, single workers and family workers (those who work in their own family without wages) in the household and non-household industries are given in the following statements :

INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (HOUSEHOLD)

Industrial classification			Rural	Urban	Total
Employee	.. ..	Male	125	6	131
		Female ..	2	..	2
Others	.. ..	Male ..	3,715	92	3,807
		Female ..	1,423	7	1,430
	Total ..	Male ..	3,840	98	3,938
		Female ..	1,425	7	1,432

INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (NON-HOUSEHOLD)

Industrial classification		Rural	Urban	Total
Employer	Male ..	321	160	481
	Female ..	1	..	1
Employee	Male ..	5,592	1,785	7,377
	Female ..	101	85	186
Single worker ..	Male ..	1,034	680	1,714
	Female ..	106	5	111
Family worker	Male ..	154	15	169
	Female ..	15	25	40
Total	Male ..	7,101	2,640	9,741
	Female ..	223	115	338

Employment of Women—The following statement gives an idea of the number of women employed on December 31, of the relevant years in the private and the public sectors in the district :

Employment of women	Year		
	1964	1965	1966
Number of reporting establishments	94	105	98
Number of women employees in public sector ..	175	203	253
Number of women employees in private sector ..	14	12	171
Total women employees	189	215	424
Percentage of women employed in public sector in respect of total employees in that sector	2.9	3.5	4.4
Percentage of women employed in private sector in respect of total employees in that sector ..	1.5	1.0	5.6

The percentage of women workers (to total number of women workers) in different spheres for the quarter ending in December, 1966, was as follows :

Education	36.6
Medical and public health	6.1
Forestry	0.2
Construction	40.3
Services	16.8
Total	100.0

Unemployment Trends

Supply of Workers—The following statement gives an occupational analysis of the cumulative total of employment seekers on the 'live register' of the employment exchange of the district as on December 31, 1967.

Occupation	Number as on December 31, 1967		
	Men	Women	Total
Professional, technical and related work	29	5	34
Administrative, executive and managerial work ..	..	..	..
Clerical and related work	35	..	35
Farming, fishing, hunting, logging and related work ..	3	..	3
Mining and quarrying	1	..	1
Transport and communications	21	..	21
Crafts, production and labour/work not elsewhere classified	26	..	26
Employment in services and activities connected with sports and recreation	51	1	52
Occupations not classified elsewhere	532	11	543
Total	698	17	715

According to educational standards the number and composition of employment seekers as on December 31, 1967 was as follows :

Educational standard	Registered during half-year ending in December 31, 1967		Placed during half-year		Total number on 'live register'	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Post-graduate ..	1	3	..	..	3	3
Graduate ..	27	3	9	2	22	2
Persons who passed higher secondary including intermediate and under graduates ..	116	6	11	2	90	4
Matriculate ..	279	5	28	..	193	2

Demand for workers—The number of vacancies notified by different establishments for the quarter ending in December, 1967, was as follows :

Establishment	Number of establishments which used exchange	Number of vacancies notified
Public sector	27	102
Central Government	1	57
State Government	21	41
Local bodies	5	4
Private sector	2	2
Total ..	29	104

According to an analysis the number of vacancies notified by all employers in various industrial units during the quarter ending in December, 1967, was as follows :

Sphere	Number of vacancies	Percentage in respect of total number of vacancies notified
Different services in private/public sector ..	87	83.7
Trade and commerce	2	1.9
Agriculture, live-stock, forestry and horticulture	15	14.4
Total	104	100.0

The occupational analysis of these vacancies is given in the following statements :

Occupation	Number of vacancies	Percentage in respect of total vacancies notified
Professional, technical and related work ..	5	4.8
Administrative, executive and managerial ..	1	1.0
Clerical and related work	19	18.3
Farming, fishing, hunting, logging and related work	13	12.5
Transport and communications ..	2	1.9
Crafts, production and labour/work not classified elsewhere	..	..
Services and activities connected with sports and recreation	64	61.5
Total	104	100.0

Placement in Employment—The employment exchange placed 104 persons (including 6 women) in employment during the quarter ending in December, 1967. Analysed according to occupations, 8 (or 7.6 per cent) were placed in professional, technical and related posts ; 1 (or 1.0 per cent) in administrative, executive, and managerial appointments, 22 (or 21.1 per cent) in clerical and related work ; 12 or (11.6 per cent) were placed as farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers, etc. ; 1 (or 1.0 per cent) in transport and communications ; and 60 (or 57.7 per cent) in service and activities connected with sports and recreation.

According to still another analysis of the 104 placements made by the exchange 98 were in the public and 6 in the private sectors.

Workers in Short and Surplus Supply

There is always a shortage of technical, skilled and semi-skilled labour in the district whereas unskilled labour and new entrants to the labour market are in surplus.

National Planning And Community Development

Community development programmes were introduced in this district under the First Five-year Plan with the opening of the Bhillangana development block on October 2, 1953. Work regarding agriculture, public health, social education, cottage industries, etc. was taken in hand in the block. The district was later divided into 10 development blocks, certain particulars in respect of each being given in the following statement.

Tahsil	Name of block	Present stage	Date of inauguration	Number of Gaon Sabhas	Population as in 1961
Devaprayag ..	Devaprayag ..	II	1-4-58	85	33,752
Do	Jakholi ..	Post-stage II.	2-10-56	89	42,485
Do	Kirti Nagar	II	1-10-59	70	33,544
Do	Narendra Nagar ..	II	1-10-61	69	33,438
Pratapnagar ..	Bhillangana ..	Post-stage II	2-10-53	78	35,849
Do	Jakhnidhar	II	1-10-62	74	30,590
Do	Pratapnagar ..	II	1-10-60	71	30,782
Tehri ..	Chamba ..	II	1-4-61	73	35,486
Do	Jaunpur	Post-stage II	26-1-56	78	30,655
Do	Tholdhar	I	1-10-62	59	28,238

The evolution of a block originally covered 4 stages but since 1958 the number has been reduced to only 3 stages : stage I, stage II and post-stage II. The period of operation of the stages I and II is 5 years each from the date of inception ; the period of the last stage had not been fixed.

On April 1, 1955 the resources of local offices of the departments of agriculture, co-operations, Panchayat Raj, animal husbandry and of the Prantiya Rakshak Dal were pooled under the district planning officer. The departmental activities are supervised by the district level officers, namely the district agriculture officer, the assistant registrar (co-operative societies), the district panchayat Raj officer and the district organiser of the Prantiya Rakshak Dal, all serving under the direction and supervision of the district planning officer who is also the controlling officer of the development blocks. With the enforcement of The Uttar Pradesh Kshetra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961 district planning officer has also become the Mukhya Adhikari of the Zila Parishad.

At the block level the block development officer is responsible for all the planning and development activities pertaining to his block. He is assisted by assistant development officers, one each for agriculture, panchayats, co-operatives, animal husbndry, minor irrigation and public health. A development block is further sub-divided into 10 circles of village level workers each being under a village level worker who keep in constant touch with the village people. A block is also divided into Gaon Sabhas and *nyaya* panchayats. The panchayat secretaries look after panchayat works tt he Gaon Sabha and *nyaya* panchayat levels.

To supervise the planning activities and for the implementation of development programmes the District Plan Implementation Committee, the District Nutrition Co-ordination Commitee and the Chamba-Mussoorie Fruit Belt Allotment Committee are functioning in the District.

At the block level there is a Kshetra Samiti of which the block development officer is the ex officio secretary. The Utpadan Samiti and the Kalyan Samiti are the two sub-committees of the Kshetra Samiti.

Impact of National Planning

The district has continued to march ahead on the road to progress and prosperity under the impact of planning and development plans. Significant results have been noticed particularly in the spheres of agriculture, irrigation, industry, co-operatives and forests. The quantity of improved variety of seeds distributed rose up by six times and those of chemical fertilisers and improved agricultural implements by almost two hundred times respectively since the beginning of the First Five-year Plan. Irrigation facilities have also been extended to as many as 6,870 hectares

of land during the same period. Industrial training-cum-production centres and polytechnic schools which have been started since the fifties of the century have been turning out trained technical personnel for spinning, weaving, dyeing, basketry, soap manufacture and woodcraft industries. Loans and grants on liberal scale have been advanced for the setting up of cottage industries. A mulberry farm and rearing outpost was opened for sericulture in 1961-62 at Bhagwatpur (Tehri). Service co-operatives have been started throughout the district, each unit covering 2 to 6 Gaon Sabhas. The District Co-operative Bank and the District Co-operative Federation have statred functioning and cater to the needs of the members and primary societies. Extended educational facilities have been provided by the opening of many new primary and secondary schools for boys as well as girls, and the number of children going to schools now has gone up manifold during the last decade. Thousands of acres of land have been brought under afforestation and steps to preserve forest wealth on scientific lines have been intensified. Hospitals in the district have been founded with X-ray and other latest equipments, new dispensaries and family planning centres and T. B. clinics and a leprosy centre have also been opened. Use of clean and purified water is being encouraged and sanitation and improvement of drainage is receiving the earnest attention of the public health authorities.

सत्यमेव जयते

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Tehri Garhwal is one of the four districts of the Garhwal Division which is in the charge of the commissioner, Garhwal Division, with his headquarters at Pauri-Garhwal. The district is in the charge of a district magistrate with headquarters at Narendra Nagar.

District Subdivisions

For purposes of general administration, the distirct is divided into two subdivisions, Kirti Nagar and Tehri-Pratapnagar with their headquarters at Kirti Nagar and Tehri respectively. The Kirti Nagar subdivision comprises 24 *patwari* circles, 2 supervisor *kanungo* circles and the tahsil of Devaprayag. The Tehri-Pratapnagar subdivision comprises 30 *patwari* circles divided between the 2 tahsils of Tehri and Pratapnagar, with a supervisor *kanungo* in each tahsil. The headquarters of both the tahsils are at Tehri. There is a *peshkari* (sub-tahsil) in the tahsil of Tehri with its headquarters at Dhanolti, which is situated at a height of 2,286 metres above the sea-level. The headquarters of the sub-tahsil is shifted in the winter from Dhanolti to a warmer place such as Thature, Bharam or Kempti according to the availability of the accommodation from November 15 to March 15, every year. It is under the charge of a *naib*-tahsildar.

Of the 54 *patwaris* posted in the district 37 exercise police powers in their circles. All the supervisor *kanungos* are also invested with police powers in their respective jurisdictions.

The district is divided into 9 parganas and 54 *pattis*. The following statement shows the tahsilwise and parganawise distribution of the *pattis* in the district :

Tehsil	Pargana	Patti
1	2	3
Tehri ..	Udaipur	(8) Udkot-Maniyar (2) Juwa-Athooh (3) Juwa-Uda ipur (4) Gussain (5) Nagon (6) Sarjula
	Jaunpur	(1) Chhajula (2) Dashjula (3) Paligad (4) Laloor Idwalsyun (5) Silwar

Tahsil	Pargana	Patti
1	2	3
Tehri	Narendra Nagar (Part)	(1) Dharakria-Makhlogi (2) Bamund (3) Saklana
Pratapnagar ..	Chilla	(1) Argar-Gongarh (2) Kewar (3) Koti Phaigul (4) Dhungmandar (5) Thati Kathud (6) Basar
	Pratapnagar	(1) Oan (2) Upli Ramoli (3) Dharmandal (4) Bhadura (5) Ralka (6) Rannad-Ramoli
	Chandrabadni (Part)	(1) Khas (2) Jakhrridar (3) Lamridhar
	Bhilung (Part)	(1) Bhilung
Devaprayag —	Bhardar — —	(1) Padma Banger Phutgarh (2) Lasya (3) Silgarh (4) Sumari Bhardar (5) Soram Bhardar
	Kirti Nagar	(1) Karakot (2) Chauras (3) Dagar-Aki-Varjyula (4) Malaitha (5) Lostu Badiyargarh
	Narendra Nagar (Part)	(1) Kunjani (2) Kwili or Quili (3) Dogi (4) Dhamandsyun (5) Pal Kot (6) Bharpur
	Chandrabadni	(1) Chandrabadni (2) Paurikhal (3) Bangarh (4) Hinsiryakhal (5) Hindolakhal
	Bhilung	(1) Gyarahgaon (2) Nailchami (3) Hindau

There are 2,013 villages in the district including Dhalwala and Tapoban villages (tahsil Devaprayag) which came over to this district from the district of Dehra Dun in 1956. For the sake of administrative convenience, land records and allied statistics have been allowed to

continue under the charge of a *lekhpal* and a *kanungo* of the district of Dehra Dun. The land revenue of these villages has been brought on the roll of tahsil Devaprayag of the district.

District Staff

The general administration of the district is vested in the district officer who is known as deputy commissioner (for revenue powers) and also as district magistrate (for criminal jurisdiction). He exercises both magisterial and executive powers and is the nucleus of all governmental activities in the district. He is the chief revenue officer in the district and is responsible for collection of land revenue and all dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue. Besides he functions as settlement officer and maintains land records, keeps them up to date and is also in ultimate charge of the government treasury in the district.

In his capacity of district magistrate he exercises the powers specified under the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1898 and various special Acts. The district police being subordinate to him, he is the highest authority responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district and also exercises the powers of a superintendent of police in regard to revenue police. In addition to other duties, he looks after the entire planning and development work of the district, his main function being the co-ordination of the activities of the different nation-building departments.

He runs the district administration with the help of 2 subdivisional officers each of whom holds charge of a subdivision and performs multifarious duties- revenue, executive, magisterial, as well as those connected with planning and development and acquisition of land in his subdivision. There is also a deputy collector with headquarters at Narendra Nagar, who has criminal jurisdiction in respect of the police-station of Narendra Nagar and the *pattis* of Kunjani and Dhamandsyun in the tahsil of Devaprayag. He also functions as district excise officer, district election officer, land acquisition officer, stamp officer, *nazul* officer, officer in charge of civil defence and is also in charge of the collectorate. For the convenience of revenue administration each tahsil is under the charge of a residential tahsildar. There are a *naib*-tahsildar and 4 supervisor *kanungos* in the district.

The deputy commissioner is also assisted by a treasury officer, 3 tahsildars, a district planning officer and a district supply officer.

The police organisation, which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district, is headed by a deputy superintendent of police, who is assisted by a circle inspector and 10 subinspectors. There are 3 police-stations in the district with headquarters at Narendra Nagar, Tehri and Kirti Nagar, each being under the charge of a subinspector called the station officer. The station officers are assisted in their work by 29 head constables and 136 constables.

Another important branch of the public administration in the district is the judiciary which is headed by the district and sessions judge with headquarters at Dehra Dun. The district and sessions judge is the highest criminal court for the district. As district judge, his is also the highest civil court for the district and appeals against the decisions of the *munsif* are heard by him. Appeals against the orders of the district Judge lie to the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad. A civil and sessions judge has also been appointed in the district with headquarters at Tehri.

Other District-level Officers

A list of the district-level officers working under the administrative control of their own heads of department with the places where their headquarters are located in the district is given below:

Civil Surgeon	Narendra Nagar
Deputy Superintendent of Police	"
District Inspector of School	"
District Employment Officer	"
District Supply Officer	"
District Medical Officer of Health	"
Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies	"
Assistant Panchayat Raj Officer	"
District Agriculture Officer	"
District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer	"
District Live-stock Officer	"
District Planning Officer	Tehri
District Horticulture Officer	"
District Industries Officer	"
Soil Conservation Officer	"
Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Provincial Division	"
Executive Engineer, Irrigation and Power Division	"
District Statistics Officer	Muni-ki-Reti

Regional Offices of the Government

Divisional Ayurvedic Officer	Narendra Nagar
Civil and Sessions Judge	Tehri
Divisional Forest Officer	"

Central Government Offices

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Indian Posts and Telegraph Department—The district comes under the jurisdiction of the senior superintendent of post-offices, Dehra Dun division. A post master is in charge of the head post-office at Tehri Garhwal. An inspector of post-offices has also been appointed in the district with headquarters at Tehri to supervise the working of the post-offices functioning in the district.

Ministry of Finance

Directorate of National Savings—The district of Tehri Garhwal comes under the jurisdiction of the assistant regional director, national savings, Kumaon and Garhwal Divisions, with headquarters at Naini Tal. A district organiser is posted in the district with headquarters at Narendra Nagar to popularise the scheme of national savings.



CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Land Revenue Administration

Fiscal History

The area covered by the present district of Tehri Garhwal appears to have enjoyed a sort of established government since the early centuries of the Christian era and, more particularly, from the 10th century A. D. when it formed part of the territories of the rajas of Garhwal. They ruled continuously over this area till 1804 when it was overrun and occupied by the Gurkhas. In 1815, it was wrested from the Gurkhas by Sudarshan Sah with the help of the British who got divided the territory into 2 portions, retaining the eastern part, under their own, and making over the western portion, of which the present district forms part to Sudarshan Sah (1815—1859). This western portion came to be known as Tehri Garhwal state. He had his capital at Tehri and his successors continued to rule over this state, till its merger with the Indian Union in 1949 to form part of the State of Uttar Pradesh. In 1960 the tahsil of Rawain consisting of parganas Uttar Kashi and Rawain, was separated from the district to form Uttar Kashi district as an administrative unit.

Tehri Garhwal is now one of the 4 districts in Garhwal Division which is in the charge of a commissioner with headquarters at Pauri (Garhwal).

For purposes of revenue administration, Tehri Garhwal district is divided into 3 tahsils, consisting of 54 *pattis* (a *patti* being a revenue circle comprising a group of villages). Of these, tahsil Tehri has a *peshkari* (sub-tahsil) at Dhamolti, under the charge of a *peshkar* (*naib*-tahsildar). This *peshkari* consists of 6 *pattis*. The other 2 tahsils are Pratapnagar and Devaprayag.

Early Settlements

Practically nothing is known about the revenue administration obtaining in this area till the commencement of the 19th century. According to Hardwick who visited the area at the time, land revenue was realised by the ruler both in cash and in kind and amounted to about half the produce. Under the Gurkhas who overran Garhwal in 1804 the land revenue was levied in the arbitrary manner and bore no relationship to the actual yield. It is said that non-payment of even a part of the land revenue resulted in the sale of the defaulting cultivators and their wives as slaves.

After his restoration, Sudarshan Sah got some sort of settlement made in the area then comprising Tehri Garhwal state in 1823. This was

known as the Chaukuntha settlement. Measurement of land was not undertaken and village records were not prepared. Land revenue was assessed on the basis of quantity of seed sown.

His successor, Bhawani Sah, also got a settlement done in 1860. It was known as the Umula settlement. No land measurement was done and no village land records were prepared in this settlement as well.

Except for a register written in the Garhwali language, no other records of the settlement of 1873, known as the Jyula settlement ordered by the next raja, Pratap Sah, are now available. Fixed revenue was assessed in respect of all cultivated land. The cultivators were not given the right to alienate their holdings by way of sale or mortgage but were considered hereditary tenants who could sublet their holdings to the *sirtans* and could also get their land cultivated on *santa* (partnership) basis. They could also give away a portion of their land to the *kul purohit* (family priest). In this settlement, the entire area is found to have been distributed among different *thoks*, parganas and *pattis*. Measurement of land was not entrusted to the care of any one settlement officer but was entrusted to different individuals gradually, *patti*-wise or *thok*-wise.

It seems that this settlement (1873–1876) was generally welcomed by the cultivators. A census of human beings, houses, cattle, sheep and goats, and *gharats* (water-mills) was also carried out. Details of the irrigated area (*bij-khara*), unirrigated land (*bij-ukhar*), area of unculturable waste land, existing amount of land revenue, consequential reduction (*toot*) in land revenue and the revised land revenue assessed have been given, also rough details of village boundaries. Land revenue in this settlement was assessed at the rate of one rupee per unit of area requiring one *don* (29.85 kg. or 32 seers) of seed for sowing in it. The smallest unit of weight used in the settlement was *patha* which equalled 2 seers or 1.86 kg., 16 *pathas* equalling one *don*. Only three other types of land taxes were assessed in this settlement in place of the traditional 36 *rakam* and 32 *kalam* (being 36 items of revenue, and 32 items of ministerial fees respectively) that were realised earlier along with land revenue to meet the cost of administration.

After the settlement, collection of land revenue was entrusted to *kardars* and state officials. Each *kardar* was handed over a *patta* on his appointment and this *patta* contained detailed instructions. *Kardars* were appointed annually and the *pattas* of those against whom there were public complaints were not renewed. These *kardars* were like *patwaris* except for the fact that their terms of appointment were one year whereas *patwaris* were permanent state employees.

In 1879, land measurement was done in village Koti of *patti* Koti Phaigul, when for the first time an attempt was made to categories unirrigated cultivated land (*bij-ukhar*) into 2 classes—*bij-ukhar awwal*

and *bij-ukhar doyam*. Attempts also appear to have been made to assess revenue in terms of unit of area viz., *nalis* and *muthis* in place of units of weight viz., *dons* and *pathas*, but these do not appear to have succeeded.

Settlement of 1903

No serious attempt appears to have been made till 1903 for preparing village maps and *khasras* on the basis of actual measurements. Nor had any attempt been made to clearly define and demarcate the boundaries of villages till that year.

In 1903, the then ruler, Kirti Sah, undertook a proper settlement and village maps, *khasras, muntakhibs* and *rakam tehrij* were prepared in respect of the villages falling within parganas Bhilung, Chandrabadni, Pratapnagar, Kirti Nagar and Bhardar. No such detailed settlement, however, appears to have been carried out in respect of parganas Narendra Nagar, Chilla, Uttar Kashi, Udaipur, Jaunpur and Rawain. Only records of village boundaries and population were prepared and land revenue was assessed on the estimated area of holdings as fixed in the earlier settlement of 1873. Even in this settlement the assessment was made on the basis of *dons* and *pathas* (weights). The cultivated land was reclassified in this settlement into four classes: *sera* (irrigated) and *ukhar awwal, ukhar doyam* and *ukhar soyam*. The land revenue demand was fixed separately for individual cultivators instead of for the whole village. The number of *pattis* in the state was increased.

The total cultivated area is shown to have been 12,84,885 *nalis* and the total culturable waste land to have been 642 *nalis*. The amount of land revenue assessed came to Rs 1,11,791 besides which a cess (*bishah*) amounting to Rs 13,975 was also assessed. Among the other levies assessed on the basis of land revenue at the time were levies for maintenance of hospitals, state stables, fuel wood, etc. In addition, every cultivator was required to give half a seer of ghee to the state for each milk-yielding she-buffalo he possessed. This custom was known as *sawani ser*. The rate of land revenue for irrigated land was fixed at Rs 3 per *don*. For unirrigated land, it was fixed at Re 1 per *don*.

The next settlement was ordered by the then ruler, Narendra Sah in 1916 and it was completed in 1924. This settlement was done under the supervision of a regular settlement officer. *Amins* measured all fields and prepared maps and *khasras* on the spot. Plots were numbered on the maps and in the *khasras* the classification of the soil of the fields was recorded. The soil classification adopted was *talaon, ukhar awwal, ukhar doyam, ijran* and *katil*. Besides *maurusidars* (hereditary tenants) and *sirtans* (sub-tenants), a new category of cultivators was recognised and designated as *khaikars*. For the first time, an area unit of measurement, the *bisi* equal to 4,800 sq. yards or 20 *nalis* was adopted for assessing land revenue. A census of human beings and cattle was also conducted. However, the measurements were not always correct.

In this settlement, *upraon doyam* land was taken to be the standard. One *nali* of irrigated, *upraon awwal,* and *ijran* or *katil* lands was deemed respectively to equal, 3, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ *nalis* of standard land.

The various levies like *bishah, sawani ser,* etc., were abolished in this settlement and a fixed cess amounting to 10 per cent of the land revenue was assessed in lieu thereof.

No assessment circles were formed, instead the *patti* was adopted as the unit of assessment. It appears that in this settlement *ad hoc* increases were affected on the assessment made in 1903, taking into consideration factors like location of village, the classes of soil and extent of irrigated land in it, the rate of yield, the general economic condition of the cultivators, availability of pastures and the extent of damage caused by wild animals. After the *ad hoc* increases in the assessment, villages were placed into 3 classes. Every village came to have a different revenue rate, and villages having about equal revenue rates were classified together.

At the close of this settlement in 1924, the total land revenue of the state rose to Rs 3,09,280 from Rs 1,11,791 in 1903. The next settlement was to be made after 20 years.

A revision of settlement was actually started after 20 years in 1944. The work had, however, to be abandoned suddenly in June 1947 owing to political disturbances when revised *khasras* and *muntakhibs* only had been prepared and lands brought under cultivation since 1924 recorded.

Settlement of 1956–65

The operations of this Settlement commenced in 1956, with the survey and measurement of land and were completed in September, 1964. A sum of Rs 29,85,204 was spent on these operations. All the cultivated and uncultivated lands lying within the boundaries of villages were measured for the first time using the plane-table and chains. The total cultivated and uncultivated area of the district, excluding the villages of Tapoban and Dhalwala came to 88,30,757 *nalis* and 12 *mutthis*. The cultivated area was 39,65,579 *nalis* and 8 *mutthis*. This Settlement showed an increase of 58 per cent in the cultivated area over that in the last settlement. The demand of land revenue of the district was fixed at Rs 3,95,498 and 92 paise and that of cess at Rs 74,156 and 12 paise, an increase of 78 per cent on the total demand for land revenue and cesses and of 65 per cent on land revenue alone.[1] It does not include the revenue demand of villages Tapoban and Dhalwala (tahsil Devaprayag) which were transferred from Dehra Dun district to this district in 1956. The total land revenue demand for these villages on September 30, 1967 was Rs 4,842. It also does not include the amount of Rs 3,624 and 58 paise which is paid by the *khaikars* to the *mourusidars* as *malikana* at the rate of 10 per cent of their land revenue. The increase in land revenue was due to

1 *Zila Tehri Garhwal Ki Settlement Report*, 1965 (Allahabad, 1965).

improved methods of survey, extension in the cultivated area, soil improvement due to better manuring and irrigation facilities, etc. There is no alluvial *mahal* in the district A *muafi* (exemption) of Rs 25,770 and 92 paise in land revenue was sanctioned to those who were previously exempted from the payment of land revenue by the Tehri Garhwal state, details of which are given in the following statement :

Kinds of muafi	Number of villages	Amount (in Rs)
Halbandi	54	1,136.89
Jagir	120	12,012.89
Gunth	154	12,612.01
Mukravi	10	9.13
Total ..	338	25,770.92

Rent Rates—No new rent rates were fixed in the Settlement of 1965, in order to give relief to the cultivators so as to be able to invest more in the land. The existing villages rates formed the basis for assessment of land revenue. As in the previous settlement of 1924, the entire area under a holding was first converted in terms of the *upraon doyam* and then rents were fixed.

Collection of Land Revenue—The Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, has been passed by the legislature but it has not been enforced in the district except in the village of Tapoban. The collection of land revenue is made through the *malguzars,* also known as the *padhans,* (the headmen of the village), and the *patwaris.* The collection work is supervised by 3 tahsildars and one *naib*-tahsildar (*peshkar*) through the ultimate responsibility for the collection of land revenue is that of the district officer (deputy commissioner) of the disrict who is assisted in his work by 2 sub-divisional officers and an extra deputy collector. He also functions as settlement officer and maintains the land records, keeps them up to date and is in ultimate charge of the government treasury in the district.

Survey, Settlement and Resettlement

According to the provisions of the Kumaon and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, the next Settlement will now take place in the district not before 40 years from the date of vesting and the interval between the succeeding Settlements will again be 40 years except in the case of precarious and alluvial areas. If these is a substantial decline in the price of agricultural commodities, an interim revision may be undertaken.

Land Reforms

Relations between Landlord and Tenants

The system of land tenures in the district differs radically from the one prevalent in the plains. In ancient days, the cultivators paid the ruler a share of their produce as *sirtee* (agricultural assessment) which was one-third (*tihara*) of the gross produce in the case of ordinary lands and one-half in that of fertile land, in addition to a few ministerial fees and taxes. In one year the basis of collection was the extent of land in possession of the land-holders, and in the following year it was in the form of a capitation tax on the inhabitants of the village. Those holding revenue-free lands generally collected rents from the *khaikars* (akin to under-proprietors in the plains). The *dwatris* or *daftaris* (revenue officials) assisted by *mufassils* or deputies (whose duties corresponded to those of the *kanungos* in the plains) kept the revenue records. The records were often imperfect, rarely revised and were based on arbitrary estimates of the cultivable area. In order to provide for the increasing expenditure of the state, numerous taxes were imposed by the rajas on the land holders. Of these, the principal were the capitation tax and house tax and the entire revenue system was summed up under the designation of *chhattis* rakam (36 items of royal revenue) and *battis* kalam (32 items of ministerial fees). These sixty-eight items included the regular and contingent cesses.

The Gurkhas who remained in possession of the district from 1804 to 1815 revised the revenue system and abolished most of the taxes but retained *nazrana* (premium) *nankar* (capitation tax), *tandkar* (tax on looms), *mijhari* (tax on untouchables), *gheekar* (tax on ghee), *salami* (*nazrana* or premium paid to the officials) and *sonya phagun* (tax on public fastivals). Certain ministerial fees paid to the *kanungos, kamins* and *padhans* (headmen) were also retained. The revenue of each pargana was temporarily farmed out for a year to the *kamin* or *sayana* (a land-holder authorised to collect revenue in a village).

Under the rajas all proprietary rights in land vested in the ruler and were inalienable. They granted *muafis* (exemption) for the maintenance of a few state officers and for charitable purposes. Sudarshan Sah made the first settlement in 1823 for fixation of land revenue and imposed *upari rakam* (consisting of fines, dues, presents and cesses) instead of a levy which was known as *kaziya jhagrah tufan dhari* which was previously charged. The land tenures were classified as *akara* (tax-free), *ghatolkar* (of which the land revenue was remitted), *ijara* (leases) and *basada* (cultivated and assessed).

The excessive taxes imposed by the erstwhile rajas have been described in the folk songs of the district. According to them, the raja did not abolish even those taxes which were imposed by the Gurkhas. It is said

that the owner of cows or buffaloes had to pay half-a-seer of ghee per animal, and this tax called *sawani-ser* was payable in the month of Sravana (July-August). Every woman who wished to wear her hair long had to pay a tax, called *dyondi-suppo,* in the form of a *supa* full of grains, *supa* meaning a winnowing basket. The custom posts (*pauntolis*) were also a source of exploitation of the people of the district. Many inhabitants of this place had to go to other districts particularly to the plains for earning their livelihood and, on their return, they had, at these posts, to pay taxes on many things they brought with them.

The tenure-holders consisted mainly of the *maurusidar* (possessing hereditary rights), the *khaikar* and the *sirtan* (tenant-at-will). The *khaikars* held land from the *maurusidars* and the *sirtans* from both the *khaikars* and *maurusidars*. The *maurusidar* was an agent of the government for the collection of state revenue and other dues. He enjoyed full rights of transfer by sale or otherwise of the land he owned with the permission of the *hissedar*. He could not, however, secure cultivatory possession or in any way interfere with the *khaikars* or their land or their cultivation. All that he could do was to collect the government revenue together with the amount of *malikana* dues. The *khalikars* paid the land revenue and, in addition 10 per cent thereon, as *malikana* to the *maurusidars*. The land revenue was paid to the government and the amount of *malikana* was retained by the *maurusidars*. According to the Settlement Report of 1965, the *khaikars* paid a sum of Rs 3,624 and 58 paise as *malikana*. The *khaikar* paid a fixed rent for his holding to the *maurusidar* who had no right to eject him unless he himself surrendered the holding. His interest was heritable but not transferable. The other tenure-holders were those sub-tenants who had been settled on the estates by the *maurusidars* and had become *khaikars* and could not be ejected. The *sirtans* (laterally meaning tenants who pay sirtee or government revenue) were divided into two categories, the descendants of old cultivators who paid a fixed rent to the *khaikars* or the *maurusidars*, and those tenants whose rent was not settled with the *maurusidars* or *khaikars*. The *sirtans* had no fixity of tenure till the passing of the Kumaun Agricultural (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1954, which provided them protection from ejectment.

The Tehri Garhwal Bhumi Sambandhi Adhikar Niyam, 1941, enforced by the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state is still in vogue. The rights of the ex-ruler of the state in land except in his *khudkasht* (owner's cultivated land) and the rights of the *muafidars* have, however, now vested in the State government.

According to the Settlement Report of 1965, there were 1,46,717 tenure-holders in the district of which 1,10,652 were *maurusidars* (possessing hereditary rights in the land) and 36,065 *khaikars*. The average size of the holding in the district was 0.6 hectares.

The Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, has not been enforced in the district except in the village of Tapoban and, hence, the old system of land tenures still continues.

Administration of Taxes Other Than Land Revenue

In the district, as elsewhere in Uttar Pradesh, apart from land revenue, the other main sources from which the income of the State is derived are excise, sales tax, entertainment tax, stamp duties, registration, taxes on motor vehicles and income-tax.

Excise

The U. P. Excise Act, 1910, which governs the excise administration in the district regulates the import, export, transfer, manufacture, sale and possession of intoxicating liquors and drugs. The excise revenue is derived from duties, fees, taxes and fines realised under the Act. No intoxicant can be imported into the district without a permit and the payment of duty, nor can it be exported or transported unless duty has been paid. Liquor and other spirituous preparations can be manufactured only if a license has been obtained from the State excise commissioner. The rates of excise duty are fixed by the government.

The district magistrate is in charge of the excise administration in the district. He usually delegates the powers to a subordinate magistrate who is designated as the district excise officer. The district falls in the excise range of Dehra Dun, which is under an assistant commissioner. The district itself is divided into 2 excise circles—Narendra Nagar and Tehri—each under the charge of an excise inspector. The river Bhagirathi generally provides the dividing line for these 2 circles.

Liquor—Before the merger there were 84 liquor shops functioning under the out-still system under which licenses were issued to highest bidders, both for manufacture and sale of liquor. These shops were however, closed by the interim administration in 1949 and replaced by 4 liquor shops at Tehri, Narendra Nagar, Magra and Khushraila under the contract supply system. The shop at Khushraila was closed in August, 1949. In 1961-62 a shop each was opened at Badshahi Thaul, Timali and Khandgi. The shops at Timali and Badshahi Thaul were closed down in 1965-66 and 1966-67, respectively. Country spirit is supplied under the contract supply system to the warehouse, the rates for spiced spirits being 63 paise per litre and for plain spirits 21 paise per litre. A new system of minimum guaranteed quota has been introduced in the district and a minimum quota for each country liquor shop has been fixed, and up to this quota, liquor has to be lifted by the contractors. The hours of sale of country liquor and the quantity sold to an individual at a time are restricted at the licensed shops.

There are in the district 2 foreign liquor shops, one each at Narendra Nagar and Tehri.

The following statement shows the consumption of country liquor in the district from 1955-56 to 1966-67 :

Year	Sale (in litres)
1955-56	4,559
1956-57	5,611
1957-58	5,477
1958-59	5,650
1959-60	5,722
1960-61	6,585
1961-62	10,504
1962-63	45,735
1963-64	56,802
1964-65	66,145
1965-66	71,441
1966-67	83,922

The consumption of liquor has considerably increased due to the opening of new shops and introduction of the minimum guarantee system.

Opium—Opium is consumed by habitual addicts and is used for medicinal purposes as well. Formerly, it was also used for smoking in the form of *chandu* and *madak* but now opium-smoking is an offence punishable under the law. A few farmers of pargana Jaunpur used to cultivate poppy commonly called *posta* which had white or pink flowers. The milky juice from the immature fruit gives opium. The seeds were also used as food and there was some cultivation up to 1960 for seeds alone but at present there is no such cultivation. The sale of opium has been prohibited in the district and it is made available for medicinal purposes only to those who obtain a certificate from the civil surgeon of the district. Up to 1958, opium was sold through a State-managed shop under the surcharge system. This shop was closed in April, 1958. Now opium is only issued to the addicts holding permits from Tehri sub-treasury. In 1966-67, there were 2 opium addicts in the district but in December 1967, the number was reduced to only one.

The following statement shows the consumption of opium in the district from 1955-56 to 1966-67 :

Year	Quantity (in kg.)
1955-56	16.79
1956-57	1.40
1957-58	0.47
1958-59	0.93
1959-60	0.14
1960-61	0.21
1961-62	0.15
1962-63	0.12
1963-64	0.15
1964-65	0.10
1965-66	0.15
1966-67	0.14

Hemp Drugs--Previously, hemp drugs known as ganja, charas and bhang constituted items of excise revenue but the use of charas and ganja has been banned under law since 1943-44 and 1956-57, respectively, though bhang is still available at a licensed shop at Tehri.

The following statement gives the quantity of consumption of bhang in the district since 1955-56 to 1966-67 :

Year	Quantity (in kg.)
1955-56	2.80
1956-57	1.86
1957-58	0.93
1958-59	1.86
1959-60	2.80
1960-61	0.93
1961-62	0.93
1962-63	1.00
1963-64	1.50
1964-65	0.50
1965-66	1.00
1966-67	1.00

Excise Revenue—The total income derived from excise duties, licence fees, etc., from 1955-56 to 1966-67 is given as under in rupees :

Year	Country liquor	Country fermented liquor	Foreign liquor	Hemp drugs	Opium	Miscellaneous receipts
1955-56	1,14,401.59	..	1,343.75	58.70	7,342.00	..
1956-57	1,40,738.14	..	2,265.00	59.33	2,383.37	225.44
1957-58	1,40,574.15	..	2,826.00	45.50	1,030.00	..
1958-59	1,39,833.61	..	3,353.00	51.00	1,150.00	133.85
1959-60	1,83,446.34	35.00	3,819.00	97.50	112.00	80.00
1960-61	1,97,923.04	28.00	4,493.75	45.50	145.00	113.00
1961-62	2,67,911.54	21.00	9,349.50	105.50	101.71	206.79
1962-63	4,90,221.18	35.00	9,103.50	105.50	87.83	130.00
1963-64	4,84,226.00	247.00	26,902.00	109.15	95.56	140.00
1964-65	4,95,430.15	68.00	29,817.06	103.05	75.25	250.00
1965-66	5,16,518.14	50.00	28,934.96	116.00	119.00	501.00
1966-67	5,33,980.74	38.00	30,928.15	106.00	113.75	905.80

Sales Tax

As elsewhere in the State, sales tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1948, and under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956. The former has undergone several amendments, some of which provide for the reduction of the limit of taxable turnover from Rs 15,000 to Rs 12,000, enhancement of registration fee from Rs 6 to 10, imposition of a tax on food-grains, cement, iron, *kirana* (grocery), photo goods, readymade garments, soft coke and timber. Sugar and tobacco have been exempted from this tax.

The following statement shows the number of assessable dealers of important trades and the revenue collected from them in 1966-67 was as under :

Commodity	Number of assessable dealers	Amount of tax (in Rs)
Food-grains	10	10,211
Iron	5	6,319
Brassware	4	2,501
General merchandise	29	5,019
Radio	2	7,213
Kirana	87	10,136
Timber ..	1	76,318
Bullion	1	2,117

The net collections of the tax from 1961-63 to 1967-68 were as follows :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1962-63	64,450
1963-64	83,815
1964-65	96,805
1965-66	99,213
1966-67	1,06,116
1967-68	1,21,918

For purposes of this tax the district of Tehri Garhwal falls under the jurisdiction of the assistant sales tax officer, Rishikesh, who deals with cases involving a net annual turnover up to Rs 80,000. Cases where the net turnover exceeds this amount are dealt with by the sales tax officer, Dehra Dun.

Entertainment Tax

The entertainment tax in the district is levied under the U. P. Entertainments and Betting Tax Act, 1937, and is realised from agencies of entertainment like touring talkies, cinemas and circuses, etc. The amounts of entertainment tax realised in 1965-66 and 1966-67 were Rs 1,570 and Rs 140, respectively.

Stamps

Under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial, the former being affixed when court fees are to be paid and the latter on bills of exchange and other documents as specified in the Act and on receipts involving a sum exceeding 20 rupees.

Income from this source of revenue for the five years ending on 31st March 1967 was as under :

Year	Sale (in rupees)	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1962-63	79,864.35	16,483.75
1963-64	75,390.20	20,662.75
1964-65	76,565.60	26,870.00
1965-66	77,988.55	28,483.25
1966-67	89,529.70	31,586.25

There were 13 licensed stamp vendors in the district in 1967.

Registration

Certain documents, such as instruments of sale, gift, lease, mortgage, etc., of immovable property, instruments relating to shares in a joint-stock company, bills, etc., are required to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. The district magistrate, Tehri Garhwal is the *ex-officio* district registrar of Tehri Garhwal and Uttar Kashi. The offices of subregistrars are at Tehri and Devaprayag.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure in respect of each office from 1962-63 to 1966-67 :

Year	Tehri-Garhwal		Tehri		Devaprayag	
	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)
1962-63	898.25	2,310.42	5,185.78	3,575.00	1,885.00	299.68
1963-64	1,812.10	2,295.31	4,788.75	3,640.18	1,493.12	300.00
1964-65	1,892.50	3,962.18	7,948.50	3,311.13	3,558.11	325.50
1965-66	2,297.75	2,906.49	7,857.50	3,607.30	3,576.06	311.50
1966-67	1,138.85	2,713.78	7,775.25	5,837.74	3,721.24	300.00

Tax on Motor Vehicles

Motor vehicles in the district are taxed under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1935, and under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. In 1967, a sum of Rs 12,690 was collected under the provisions of the former Act and a sum of Rs 5,77,700 under the latter Act, in the entire Dehra Dun region which comprises 6 districts including Tehri Garhwal under administrative control of the regional transport officer, Dehra Dun region, with headquarters at Dehra Dun.

Under the provisions of the U. P. Motor Gadi (Yatri-Kar) Adhiniyam, 1962, which was enforced in the district on October 1, of that year, a tax was imposed on passengers travelling in government or privately owned buses and for the collection of the tax 3 passenger tax officers are posted at the headquarters. The amount collected in the whole Dehra Dun region for 1965 was Rs 23,35,142. The U. P. Motor Gadi (Mal-Kar) Adhiniyam, 1964, which was enforced in the district on November 16, 1964, provides for the levy of tax on goods carried by motor vehicles and a goods tax officer and a goods tax superintendent have been posted at the headquarters for the collection of these dues which amounted to Rs 10,71,743 in 1965 for the whole region. Separate figures for the district are not available.

Income-Tax

For purposes of income-tax, the district falls under the jurisdiction of the income-tax officer, Dehra Dun. There is an appellate assistant commissioner of income-tax also at Dehra Dun who hears appeals against the orders of income-tax officers.

The following statement gives the figures of assessment in the district from 1955-56 to 1966-67 :

Year	Number of assessees	Amount of tax assessed (in rupees)
		Rs
1955-56	62	13,400
1956-57	80	15,300
1957-58	98	18,200
1958-59	117	24,980
1959-60	140	35,725
1960-61	142	36,200
1961-62	160	50,000
1962-63	192	25,980
1963-64	200	99,000
1964-65	214	1,45,000
1965-66	198	1,41,940
1966-67	220	1,47,950

Estate Duty—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, on the property of a deceased person. For purposes of the collection of estate duty, the assistant controller in charge of the Lucknow circle, has jurisdiction over this district.

From 1955-56 to 1966-67 there was only one assessee in the district in 1960-61 and the amount assessed was Rs 737.

Central Excise

The district of Tehri Garhwal falls under the jurisdiction of the range officer, central excise, Dehra Dun II, who is subordinate to the senior superintendent of central excise, Dehra Dun. No tax has been realised in the district during the last five years.



CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

Law and Order

The people of the district have by and large been simple and honest. There has been a general absence of heinous crimes of every description. Till the merger of the Tehri Garhwal state in the Indian Union in 1949 the maintenance of law and order was the raja's responsibility. Things moved more or less smoothly under the rajas. But with the introduction of education on modern lines in the time of Pratap Sah (1871–76) the subjects became restive under the many oppressive taxes imposed by the rajas. These agitations were locally called *dhandaks* (rebellion) and generally were directed against the oppressive taxes and also against the harassment of the people by the petty officials in the settlement of forest and other lands. Of these agitations those of Basar, Khas *patti* and Karakot are the better known ones. The Basar *dhandak* of 1882 is proudly mentioned as the first ever agitation against feudal rule. A series of such agitations continued to be witnessed till the merger of the state in 1949.

There is no law and order problem in the district arising from strikes, unruly processions, communal riots, activities of criminal gangs, etc. The police, therefore, has a comparatively easy time except perhaps during the season of pilgrimage or on occasions of public fairs and festivals.

Crime

Statement I which follows shows the number of cognizable crimes reported to the police and in statement II figures of the important crimes and the results of prosecution are given. No case relating to non-cognizable crime was, however, sent up for trial.

Statement I

Year	Cases pending investigation at the beginning of the year	Cases reported to police	Cases investigated	Cases sent to courts	Cases pending in courts at beginning of the year	Cases disposed of		
						Convicted	Discharged or acquitted	Compounded
	3	23	23	14	8	14	..	..
1960	1	12	11	7	2	5		
1961	10	59	52	13	4	9	..	..
	..	16	16	16	1	15		

Year	Cases pending investigation at the beginning of the year	Cases reported to police	Cases investigated	Cases sent to courts	Cases pending in courts at beginning of the year	Cases disposed of: Convicted	Cases disposed of: Discharged or acquitted	Cases disposed of: Compounded
1962 ..	4 / ..	51 / 8	50 / 8	22 / 8	7 / 2	13 / 4	3 / ..	..
1963 .	1 / 1	44 / 7	37 / 7	11 / 7	9 / ..	7 / 5	1 / 1	..
1964 ..	2 / ..	41 / 3	42 / 3	18 / 3	8 / 1	5 / 3	2 / ..	..
1965 ..	5 / ..	85 / 19	80 / 19	43 / 18	11 / 1	32 / 16	7 / 1	..
1966 ..	7 / ..	105 / 18	88 / 18	48 / 17	13 / 5	49 / 9	.. / 1	6

N. B.—The numerator represents figures relating to offences under the Indian Penal Code and the denominator those falling under the special and local laws

Statement II

Crime	Year: 1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Murder						
Reported	..	2	1	..	..	1	..
Convicted	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Acquitted	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Robbery						
Reported	..	2	1	..	..	1	..
Convicted	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Acquitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Riot						
Reported	..	..	1	..	..	4	1
Convicted	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
Acquitted	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Theft						
Reported	..	17	10	19	10	24	18
Convicted			2	3	2	5	3
Acquitted	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

Crime	Year					
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
House breaking/burglary						
Reported	16	13	12	18	21	25
Convicted ..	5	4	..	5	1	6
Acquitted	1	..	..	1	1	
Sex crimes (376—377 I. P. C.)						
Reported ..	2	..	..	1	1	..
Convicted ..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Acquitted ..	..	..	..	..	1	..

Organisation of Police

A deputy superintendent of police heads the police organisation which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district, the powers of the superintendent of police being vested in the district magistrate. Under the rajas of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state certain *patwaris* were invested with the powers of station officers of police. This has continued and some *patwaris* still exercise these powers in their respective circles. The revenue police also forms part of the police organisation of the district. The district is included in the hill range, Naini Tal, which is under a deputy inspector general of police. The details of these 2 wings—the revenue police and the district executive police are given below :

Revenue Police

The *patwaris* invested with the powers of a station officer of police by the former rajas were paid a monthly salary of Rs 4 or Rs 6 in addition to ration which in the local dialect is called bara (बरा) and a commission at the rate of an *anna* a rupee on the total collection of the land revenue. Even after the merger, the *patwaris* have continued to enjoy the powers of a station officer of police in their respective circles and function under the rules and orders in force in the Kumaon Division. They work under the district magistrate who exercises the powers of the superintendent of police over them so far as their police duties are concerned.

The district is divided into 54 *pattis* of which 36 are under the revenue police, 17 under the regular police, and *patti* Dagar-Aki-Barjyula is partly under the regular police, and partly under the revenue police. In *pattis* administered by the revenue police the *patwari,* who also functions as a station officer of a police-station, is assisted by a peon who works as a constable while carrying out the duties relating to criminal work like apprehending offenders and escorting prisoners. The *padhan* (called

malguzar in local language) who is also the headman of his village reports about the bad characters or offenders to the *patwari* concerned and assists in the discharge of his police duties.

There are 4 supervisor *kanungos* in the district who supervise the work of the *patwaris* under their respective circles and exercise the power of a circle inspector as in the regular police. The next higher authorities in order are the *peshkar*, the tahsildar and the subdivisional officer/ magistrate. There is only one *peshkari* in the district, Dhanolti, where a *naib* tahsildar known as *peshkar* is posted. He exercises jurisdiction over 5 *pattis*. All these officers down to the *patwaris* are within the administrative and supervisory control of the district magistrate.

District Executive Police

The district executive police which came into existence from November 29, 1962 on its separation from the police of Dehra Dun district is headed by a deputy superintendent of police and has three broad divisions—the civil police, the armed police and the prosecution unit.

Civil Police—In 1967, the civil police comprised a permanent inspector, 10 subinspectors, 29 head constables and 136 constables.

For maintaining law and order and also for investigating crimes the district has been divided into 3 police circles with police-stations at Narendra Nagar, Tehri and Kirti Nagar and 4 out-posts, one each at Muni-ki-Reti, Devaprayag, Nagni and Chamba. An out-post is under the charge of a head constable who is assisted by a number of constables. He is answerable to the officer in charge of the police-station under whose jurisdiction the out-post falls.

Armed Police—The armed police is the reserve force of the district and is stationed at Narendra Nagar. In 1967, the armed police consisted of an inspector, a subinspector, 36 head constables and 135 constables. The services of the armed police are utilised for protecting government property, guarding government treasuries (both at the district and the tahsil headquarters), escorting prisoners and for patrolling duties.

Prosecution Unit—The prosecution work of both the executive and the revenue police is looked after by a public prosecutor and 2 assistant public prosecutors in the district.

Prantiya Rakshak Dal

It is an organisation established in the rural areas to mobilise manpower for purposes of self defence and youth welfare activities. The paid staff consists of a district organiser and 10 block organisers, the honorary staff comprising 81 *halqa sardars* (circle leaders), 691 *dalpatis* (group leaders), 1,845 *tolinayaks* (section leaders) and 18,450 *rakshaks* (guards).

The main function of the organisation are centred round village defence, literacy and agricultural production. It also regularly organises activities like sports-meets and wrestling bouts, etc. In times of need the unpaid members are also employed to guard bridges and government buildings, patrol telephone lines and help in the maintenance of law and order.

Village Defence Societies

The main functions of the village defence societies are to organise the villagers for defence against dacoits and other similar criminals and to inculcate in them self-confidence and a spirit of self help. 103 and 63 village defence societies have been formed respectively under the jurisdiction of police-stations Narendra Nagar and Tehri.

Jails and Lock-up

District Jail—The building of the district jail Tehri dates back to 1910 but it has since undergone several improvements and modifications. It was capable of holding 250 prisoners but the actual number of inmates in 1910 was only about 20.

The district jail is under the charge of the civil surgeon who is also the superintendent of the jail. There is a deputy jailor in charge of the jail administration. He is helped by an assistant jailor. This jail has now accommodation for 62 prisoners at a time. The daily average population of prisoners from 1961 has been as follows :

Year	Convicts	Under trial
1961	4.69	6.80
1962	7.87	11.56
1963	11.36	11.25
1964	10.98	11.95
1965	7.08	15.19
1966	9.41	17.86

The jail also houses the prisoners of district Uttar Kashi, which has no separate jail.

Treatment of Prisoners

Under the old classification there were 3 categories of prisoners—A, B and C—but since 1948 there have been only two viz., superior and ordinary, allocation to the former being made on consideration of the prisoner's education and standard of living.

Prisoners have been provided with certain amenities in recent years. Wearing of cross-bars with fetters has been abolished. Rules regarding interviews, correspondence, and the receiving of certain articles from

friends and relatives have been liberalised. They are allowed to play certain games and to participate in recreational activities inside the jail. They are also permitted to read newspapers and books and to observe their religious practices. Moral instruction is also given to them periodically.

Non-official Visitors

The State Government appoints non-official visitors for the district jail, their number being 2 in 1967. They visit the jail according to a roster prepared by the district magistrate and their observations are recorded in a book kept for the purpose.

Revising Board

There is a board for revising the sentences of convicts undergoing imprisonment in the district jail. The district magistrate is the chairman and the session judge (within whose jurisdiction the district jail is situated) and a non-official (preferably a local member of the State Legislature) are members. The board considers the cases of casual (non-habitual) convicts sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 3 years and not more than 4 years when they have served out 2 years of the sentence ; and also of all casual convicts undergoing sentence of imprisonment for over 4 years when they have served out half the sentence. It also examines the cases of habitual convicts if the superintendent, in consideration of their work, conduct and mental and physical condition finds them suitable for premature release and they have also served out two-thirds of the period of their sentence and have completed at least two and a half years of imprisonment.

Justice

In 1803, when the Gurkhas occupied the territory of Garhwal, which included the area now covered by the district, they introduced their own system of administering justice, civil and criminal cases being disposed of by the commandant of the troops to whom the tract was assigned or by the *bacharis* (deputies) when the commandant was away from the headquarters. A brief oral examination of the parties concerned was conducted in court and if there was any doubt about a statement, the witness was made to swear by the *Harivamsa Purana* (a sacred book of the Hindus). When the evidence of eye-witnesses could not be had or the testimony was conflicting as in the case of boundary disputes recourse was taken to certain ordeals. Three forms of such ordeals were in common use : *gola-dip* (carrying a bar of red hot iron in hand for a certain distance) ; *Karahai-dip* (plunging hands in boiling oil) ; and *tarazu-ka-dip* (weighing the accused against stones and reweighing him the next morning). The judgement was recorded on the spot and witnessed by the bystanders and then handed over to the successful party, while the accused was punished with a heavy fine proportionate more of his means than to the importance

of the case. Most of the quarrels and disputes regarding land were decided by an oath. This had several forms. It could be on a son's head, which was very uncommon, or on a clod of the land in dispute, or by one side cutting in two, a piece of bamboo placed on the disputed land by the opposite party. But the most common custom was for the form of oath to be taken to be written on a piece of paper called *bando,* which one party left in the temple where he worshipped and which the other party took up. These oaths were considered most binding so much so that a dispute settled in this manner was hardly ever heard again. Cases of disputed inheritance and commercial dealings were frequently disposed of by lot before an idol in a temple.

When the British annexed this region in 1815 they divided it into eastern Garhwal and western Garhwal. The former was placed under direct British rule and western Garhwal formed the state of Tehri Garhwal which, was made over to Raja Sudarshan Sah, (1815–59). The raja had absolute powers within his state and often delegated them to his officers, but the sentence of death could be passed by him alone.

He appointed a *kamdar* in each *patti*/pargana who besides collecting the revenue, decided civil and criminal cases and was replaced every year. Raja Bhawani Sah changed the practice and established civil, criminal and revenue courts at Tehri. Under Raja Kirti Sah, courts were opened at Narendra Nagar, Kirti Nagar, Devaprayag and Tehri under a deputy collector. Appeals against the judgment of these courts were heard in the chief court (also called Hazur Court) established by the raja at Tehri.

There being no specific laws, the cases were decided on the basis of usages and customs. Raja Kirti Sah framed some laws regarding criminal matters. Latter, under Raja Narendra Sah definite laws were framed for civil, criminal and revenue cases. The *Tehri-Garhwal State Penal Code* (Act I of Sambat 1982) with an appendix relating to local offences was enacted in his regime. *Narendra Hindu Law,* based on the Garhwal usages was also compiled in 1917. In the penal code magistrates (classes I and II), bench magistrates, members of village panchayats, jagirdars and judges have been termed as *nyayadhishes.* The highest judicial authority was vested in the raja and appeal lay in all cases to him. In the judicial hierarchy the highest court was the raja himself who usually transferred the appeals to the vazir. A chief court was created by the raja with a chief justice who heard appeals from subordinate courts and also certified appeals to the raja.

By a charter dated 4th August, 1935, the raja abolished the chief court created a high court consisting of more than one judge with a chief justice. By the same charter a judicial committee was also formed to advise the raja.

Prior to the creation of the district and after the merger of the state there were 4 deputy collectors (one each at Narendra Nagar, Kirti Nagar, Devaprayag and Tehri) who exercised civil, revenue and criminal powers. Appeals against their judgements lay to the court of the civil and sessions judge, Tehri.

Before 1959 in addition to the usual criminal and revenue powers, the sub-divisional officer also used to exercise civil powers. Appeals against their judgements in criminal and civil cases lay to the civil and sessions judge, Tehri Garhwal, or the district judge, Naini Tal, who exercise concurrent jurisdiction over this district. In 1959 a *munsif's* court was created at Tehri. Since December, 1966, a separate judge has been posted with headquarters at Dehra Dun, having jurisdiction in district Tehri Garhwal and in certain other districts. He has over-all administrative control over the civil courts and has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases decided by the *munsif* and the civil judge. He exercises original jurisdiction in matrimonial suits under the Indian Divorce Act, 1869, the Special Marriage Act, 1954, as well as in cases under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, the Indian Lunacy Act, 1912, and the Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920. He also exercises jurisdiction under the Hindu Minorities and Guardianship Act, 1925, for grant of probate and letters of administration as well as the grant of succession certificates. If nominated by the election commission, he hears election petitions relating to the Vidhan Sabha and the Vidhan Parishad. He has appellate jurisdiction also in revenue suits in which a question of proprietary title is involved and under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936. As sessions judge he deals with criminal cases triable by the court of sessions and also hears appeals against the judgements and orders of the magistrates working in the district.

The monetary jurisdiction of the district judge and the civil judge is unlimited on the original side. The civil judge is invested with powers to try cases of the court of small causes up to the valuation of Rs 500. The monetary jurisdiction of the *munsif* goes up to Rs 5,000 and he is invested with powers to try cases of court of small causes up to the valuation of Rs 250. The jurisdiction of the civil judge, Tehri, and the *munsif*, Tehri also extends over the district of Uttar Kashi, there being no separate civil judge or *munsif* there.

Nature of Cases, Their Number and Special Features

The jurisdiction of the civil courts extends to all suits of a civil nature and their normal case work consists of suits involving property, contracts, inheritance, mortgages, specific relief, etc., in addition to ordinary money suits and suits for divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

The numbers of suits pending at the biginning of 1967 and instituted and disposed of during that year in the civil courts are given in the following statement :

Cases	Number
Pending at the beginning of 1967	109
Instituted	23
Disposed of after trial	40

In 1967, no suit was instituted for immovable property. Number of suits filed for movable property and matrimonial matters were 3 and 15 respectively.

The number of suits of different valuations that were instituted in 1967 is given in the following statement :

Valuation of case	Number
Not exceeding Rs 100	—
From Rs 101 to Rs 1,000	8
From Rs 1,001 to Rs 5,000	5
From Rs 5,001 to Rs 10,000	4
Exceeding Rs 10,000	1

The number of suits disposed of after trial, dismissed in default, decided without trial, decreed *ex parte* and on admission of claims, settled by compromise or arbitration was as under in 1967 :

Details of disposal	Number
Disposed of after trial	40
Dismissed in default	6
Otherwise decided without trial	17
Decreed *ex parte*	9
Decided on admission of claims	1
Settled by compromise	—
Settled by arbitration	—

The number of civil appeals instituted and disposed of in 1967 was as follows :

Nature of civil appeals	No. instituted	No. disposed of
Regular	29	56
Miscellaneous	N. A.	15

Statistics of Criminal Court—The number of cases tried by various criminal courts in the district and of persons tried and sentenced in the year 1967 are given in the statement that follows :

	No. in lower courts	No. in sessions court
Cases tried	1,212	4
Persons tried	1,603	13
Persons sentenced	552	8

Separation of Judiciary and Executive

The judiciary has not been separated from the executive in the district.

Nyaya Panchayats

Under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, *panchayati adalats,* which are now called *nyaya* panchayats were established in the district in 1960. Their function is to administer justice in minor criminal, revenue and civil matters. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya panchayat* extends, over 7 to 12 *gaon* panchayats depending on their population. Their number in each tahsil in 1967 was as follows :

Tahsil	Number of *nyaya* panchayats
Devaprayag	37
Pratapnagar	23
Tehri	21
Total ..	81

Panchs of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated by the district magistrate, with the assistance of an advisory committee from amongst the *panchs* elected to the *gaon* panchayats. The *panchs* elect from amongst themselves a *sarpanch* (presiding officer) and a *sahayak sarpanch* (assistant presiding officer) both of whom are able to record proceedings. In 1967 there were 81 *sarpanchs,* an equal number of *sahayak sarpanchs* and 1,364 *panchs,* all of whom are honorary workers. The tenure of office of both the *panchs* and the *sarpanchs* is 5 years which can be extended for another year by the State Government. Cases are heard by benches, each consisting of 5 *panchs* and constituted for a year by the *sarpanch.*

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try criminal cases under the following Acts or Sections thereof :

(*a*) The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947

(*b*) Sections of the Indian Penal Code :

140	277	323	403	447
160	283	334	411	448
172	285	341	426	504
174	289	352	428	506
179	290	358	430	509
269	294	379*	431	510

*Involving an amount up to Rs 50

(*c*) The Cattle-Tresspass Act, 1871 (Sections 24 and 26).

(*d*) The U. P. District Boards Primary Education Act, 1926. (Sub-section 1 of Section 10)

(*e*) The Public Gambling Act, 1867. (Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13).

The *nyaya* panchayats can try civil suits up to valuation of Rs 500 and also revenue cases if the parties concerned agree in writing to such a course. These courts cannot award imprisonment but are empowered to award a fine up to a hunderd rupees only. Revisions against their decisions in civil, revenue and criminal cases lie to the *munsif*, the sub-divisional officer and the subdivisional magistrate respectively.

The number of cases instituted in *nyaya* panchayats and disposed of by them from January 1, 1967 to September 30, 1967 were as follows :

	Criminal cases	Civil cases
Pending on January 1, 1967 ..	283	257
Instituted	922	884
Disposed of	790	781
Pending on October 1, 1967 ..	415	360

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The administrative and judicial departments in the district have already been described in Chapters X, XI and XII. The administrative set-up of the departments concerned with agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operatives, education, forests, industries and public works is described in the following paragraphs.

Agriculture Departments

Agriculture

The regional officer of this department known as deputy director of agriculture, Kumaon region, has his headquarters at Naini Tal. Under him at the district level there is a district agriculture officer. He is assisted by an additional agriculture officer, an agriculture inspector (supplies) and 10 assistant development officers (agriculture). The duties of the staff of the agriculture department posted in the district are mainly the execution of agriculture development programmes, management and supervision of departmental seed stores and fertiliser godowns, and government agricultural farms, collection of seed store dues, holding of demonstrations of improved agricultural practices and giving technical guidance and advice to agriculturists.

The government farms are situated at Gaza (development block, Chamba) and at Kaudiya (development block, Tholdhar) and are under the direct charge of a farm superintendent.

A senior mechanical inspector is in charge of the distribution and propagation of improved agricultural implements. A senior plant protection assistant supervises the control of pests and diseases and looks after the plant protection centre. A junior plant protection assistant and a supervisor provide him assistance. He also controls the subcentre at Narendra Nagar. The district agriculture officer controls and supervises both the senior inspectors.

Horticulture

The district organisation relating to horticulture functions under the directorate of fruit utilisation, U. P. The district horticulture officer is responsible for all the activities of the department in the district. He is assisted by a district horticulture inspector, 2 plant protection assistants (a senior and a junior), and a vegetable supervisor (at the district headquarters) in his work.

Fruit Preservation and Canning Centre—There is only one centre in the district at Tehri which is under the administrative control of the deputy director, fruit utilisation, Pauri. The centre imparts a short course of training extending over 20 days at different places in the district in the methods of preservation and community canning of fruits and vegetables.

Fruit Belt—A 47 km. long fruit belt has been carved on both sides of the motor road from Chamba to Mussoorie extending to 300 metres on either side of it. About 2 hectares of land has also been allotted to individuals for developing orchards with technical and financial assistance from government. The belt is looked after by a senior horticulture inspector who is assisted by a *naib* tahsildar.

Gardens and Nurseries—There are orchards-cum-nurseries, one each at Magra, Kanatal, Dhanolti, Pratapnagar and Motibagh-Simlashu, which, besides serving as demonstration units, produce fruit plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings to cater to the increasing demand of the cultivators for genuine and healthy stock. Each nursery is supervised by an official sometimes designated inspector.

Horticulture Mobile Teams Subcentres—In each development block there is a horticulture plant protection sub centre. The sub centre supplies fruit plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings and carries out plant protection measures to control various pests and diseases of fruits, vegetable and crops.

Animal Husbandry Department

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry, with headquarters at Meerut. A district live-stock officer stationed at Narendra Nagar controls the district establishment of the animal husbandry department. He is in charge of the schemes for the development and improvement of the breed of cattle and poultry and is also concerned with the treatment of animal diseases, control of epidemics, castration of scrub bulls and better breeding of cattle and poultry. He is assisted by 2 veterinary officers, 6 veterinary assistant surgeons and 4 assistant development officers (animal husbandry). There are 11 veterinary hospitals in the district, each being under the charge of a veterinary assistant surgeon or an assistant development officer. A sheep supervisor posted at Tehri for the supervision of the sheep development programme and a poultry inspector at Narendra Nagar for the supervision of work relating to poultry in the district assist the district live-stock officer. There are 5 sheep and wool extension centres and 2 sheep breeding farms in the district.

There are also 30 stockmen centres of which 4, one each at Ghonti, Nagni, Fakot and Thature, also function as transit camps.

Co-operative Department

The district is under the jurisdiction of the assistant registrar, co-operative societies, Kumaon and Garhwal divisions with headquarters at Naini Tal. At the district level, however, there is an assistant registrar who looks after all the co-operative activities in the district and has his headquarters in Narendra Nagar. He is assisted by an additional co-operative officer, a statistician and a statistical assistant and 10 assistant development officers (one in each development block) for supervising the co-operative work. There is a circle officer (marketing) for looking after the marketing societies of the district and 2 circle officers (special) in charge of special societies and special activities. There are also 35 co-operative supervisors to look after the departmental seed stores and to supervise the work of the co-operative institutions in the villages. The activities of the department include provision of credit facilities for agricultural operations and the distribution of consumers' goods through primary societies and supervision and inspection of co-operative institutions in the district.

Education Department

Of the different educational regions of the State, the district forms part of the hill region which is in the charge of a regional deputy director of education who has his headquarters at Naini Tal. At the district level there is a district inspector of schools who is responsible for the supervision, control and inspection of educational institutions, mainly for boys, up to the higher secondary stage. He is assisted by a deputy inspector of schools and 11 sub-deputy inspectors, the former also advising the local bodies on educational matters. The higher secondary schools for girls are under the regional inspectress of girls' schools, Region III, Bareilly, who is assisted at the district level by a deputy inspectress and 4 assistant inspectresses of girls' schools. The deputy inspector and the deputy inspectress are in charge of education up to the senior Basic stage only.

Forest Department

The erstwhile rajas of Tehri Garhwal created a forest department with 4 ranges and 23 beats under a conservator. After the merger of the state, the administration of forests was also assumed by the Government of U. P.

Civil forests (or *soyam* forests as they are called in the district) were open forests under the direct management of the village panchayats till 1948. Thereafter, as they were not being maintained properly, they were transferred to the forest department, U. P., for supervision and protection, the administrative control remaining in the hands of the district magistrate.

The reserve forests are under the forest department. They are covered by the three forest divisions of Tehri, Uttar Kashi and Yamuna, each being under the charge of a divisional forest officer with headquarters at Tehri, Uttar Kashi and Mussoorie respectively. These divisional forest officers are under the control of the conservator of forests who has his headquarters at Dehra Dun. The major part of the district forests lies in the Tehri forest division. The divisional forest officer, Tehri, is assisted by 2 subdivisional forest officers who hold executive charge of their respective subdivisions — Saklana and Bal Ganga — and also have their headquarters at Tehri.

In the Saklana subdivision there are 3 ranges — Saklana, Shivpuri and Tehri — and in that of Bal Ganga there are 4 ranges — Alaknanda, Bhillangana, Bal Ganga and Maniknath. Each range is in the charge of a ranger (also designated range officer), who is assisted by deputy rangers and foresters whose number in the district is 10 and 18 respectively. A range is further divided into beats each of which is under a forest guard who number 60 in the district.

The divisional forest officer is also assisted by a sleeper passing officer to control the timber depot at Raiwala and resin depot at Rishikesh.

Industries Department

The district is under the Naini Tal subzone of the northern zone of the industries department, U. P., the zonal office being at Bareilly. The district industries officer looks after the industrial development of the district and gives technical guidance and assistance to the industrial units of the district. He is assisted by an industrial inspector who recovers loans, undertakes surveys of industrial units, conducts enquiries into matters relating to the sanction of loans, grants, etc., for the development of cottage and small scale industries and for the distribution of raw material.

The department has a *papri* wood-craft training-cum-production centre at Tehri and a mulberry farm and rearing out-post in Bhagwatpur (Tehri), each under the charge of a superintendent.

In 1956, a wool scheme was also started which since 1967 has been functioning under the Uttar Pradesh Khadi and Gramudyog Board. Under the scheme a wool production-cum-training centre functions at Chamba.

Public Works Department

The district is under the Tehri Garhwal Provincial Division, which falls within XIV circle of the public works department, U. P., under the charge of a superintending engineer with headquarters at Moradabad. The executive engineer who has his headquarters at Tehri is assisted by

4 assistant engineers who are responsible for the entire civil construction work of the division. The electrical and mechanical works are supervised by the executive engineer, electrical and mechanical division, P. W. D., Rampur.

Some of the important constructions undertaken by the division during the Third Five-year Plan period were the following : 16 bedded ward for the Suman Hospital (district hospital), Narendra Nagar; 8 bedded ward in Male Hospital, Tehri ; science laboratory for the government higher secondary school at Anjanisain ; painted roads about 119 km. in length.

The construction of 4 motor roads : Rishikesh-Kirti Nagar, Lekhwar-Bar Kot, Mussoorie-Lekhwar and Ghansali-Tilwara was also started in 1967 by this division.



CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

The rulers of the erstwhile state of Tehri Garhwal, of which the present district is a part, established a number of institutions of local self-government which flourished up to the time of its merger with U. P. in 1949. For the better working of these local bodies, a number of laws were also framed by the rulers from time to time, based on ancient customs and traditions and generally incorporating the broad features of the corresponding enactments in vogue in that part of Garhwal which was then under British rule. Some of the important laws relating to the local bodies were : the Village Panchayat Act No. 1 of Sambat 1979 (1922 A. D.), the Municipal and Town Areas Act No. 3 of Sambat 1981 (1924 A. D.) and the Prantiya Panchayat Act No. 1 of Sambat 1995 (1938 A. D.). There were Nagar Panchayats for the towns of Tehri, Narendra Nagar and Devaprayag, Pur Panchayats for the smaller towns of Kirti Nagar and Muni-ki-Reti and Gram Panchayats for the rural areas. There was a president and a number of nominated members for each of these panchayats. The panchayats were entrusted with the management of works of local interest like sanitation, street lighting and provision of drinking water. In the rural areas they were also given minor judicial powers.

The entire expenditure of the panchayats used to be met from the state revenue and the income was deposited into the State Treasury.

After the merger of the state in U. P. the Nagar Panchayats of Narendra Nagar, Tehri and Devaprayag were constituted into notified area committees under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, and the Pur Panchayats of Kirti Nagar and Muni-ki-Reti into town area committees under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914.

Notified Areas

At present, there are four towns (Narendra Nagar, Tehri, Devaprayag and Muni-ki-Reti) in the district which have been constituted as notified areas under the provisions of the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916. Usually nine members constitute the notified area committee in each town. These members are elected by the residents of the town on the basis of universal adult franchise. The president of the committee is appointed by the government from amongst the elected members. The term of the notified area committee and its members is normally three years, which may be extended by the government.

With a few minor exceptions, the powers and functions of the notified area committees are the same as those of a municipal board. The main sources of income of the notified area committees are the toll tax, water

tax, *tehbazari*, licence-fees, fees on slaughter-houses, tax on houses and contributions and grants from the government. The funds of the committees are spent usually on general administration, tax collection, public works, sanitation, conservancy, water-supply and street lighting. Detailed figures of income and expenditure of the four notified area committees of the district are given in Table VIII of the Appendix.

Narendra Nagar

The town which was constituted into a notified area in 1951 had an area of 10.36 sq. km. and a population of 1,632 in 1961. It has three wards, viz., the Kinwari, the bazar and the civil and military area, each electing three members to the notified area committee. The last elections of the members were held in 1964.

Water Supply—Water is brought into the town from a distance of about 5 km. through a pipe-line. The storage capacity of the tanks is 37,000 gallons. In 1966-67, there were 80 metered tap connections in the town. The expenditure incurred by the notified area committee on water-supply in that year amounted to a sum of Rs 10,122.

Other Activities—Electric street lighting is provided in this town, and cost the committee a sum of Rs 5,485 in 1966-67.

The committee spent a sum of Rs 10,927 on activities related to sanitation, drainage and conservancy in the same year.

The committee has a townhall building and maintains two public parks and a library which is named as Nehru Library.

Tehri

The town (which was constituted into a notified area in 1950) had an area of 31.08 sq. km. and a population of 4,508 in 1961. The last elections of the members of the notified area committee were held in 1964.

The committee manages the water-supply of the town. Water is brought to the town from springs situated about 3 km. away through a channel and is stored in a reservoir. The water is purified and chemically treated before it is supplied to the residents of the town.

Power generated locally with a diesel engine, is used for street lighting in the town.

The notified area committee maintains a library-cum-reading room named Suman Library besides a clock tower and the Suman and the Sangam parks.

Devaprayag

The town had an area of 2.07 sq. km. and a population of 1,456 in 1961. It was constituted into a notified area in 1950.

The last elections of the members of the notified area committee were held in 1964. The committee makes arrangements for the supply of water to the town and a number of public water taps have been erected for this purpose.

Since 1966, electricity has been made available for lighting the streets of the town.

There is a library and a children's park in the town which are maintained by the notified area committee.

Muni-ki-Reti

The town was administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914 from 1950 to 1966 when it was upgraded into a notified area. Pending election of members for the notified area committee, the civic administration of the town is in the hands of the district magistrate.

The town had an area of 6 sq. km. and a population of 2,811 in 1961.

The water-supply scheme of the town was completed in 1961-62. At the close of the year 1968, the total length of the water-supply pipe-lines laid in the town was more than 6 km. and 32 public water taps had been installed. The average annual expenditure on the water-supply into the town is nearly Rs 15,000.

The town is provided with 40 electric street lamps and the average annual expenditure on street lighting is Rs 5,000.

A senior Basic school for girls is maintained in the town by the local body.

Town Areas

Kirti Nagar

The town was declared a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act of 1914 after the merger of the Tehri Garhwal state with U. P. in 1949.

The town had an area of 7.8 sq. km. and a population of 293 in 1961.

The town area committee consists of 9 members. The chairman and the members of the committee are directly elected by the adult residents of the town for a term of 4 years which may be extended by the government. The last elections were held in 1964.

The main duties of the town area committee relate to the maintenance and cleansing of public streets and drains, street lighting and water-supply.

The sources of the income of the town area are taxes levied by it on houses and lands, sale of refuse and compost, licence fees, rent from town area property and grants and contributions from the government. The total income of the town area amounted to Rs 46,054 and the expenditure to Rs 47,115 in 1966-67. The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last few years are given in Table VIII of the Appendix.

Panchayati Raj

The village panchayats form the basis of the democratic institutions in India today. In some shape or the other, panchayats had existed from times immemorial in the state of Tehri Garhwal as also in other parts of the country. They had their origin in the culture, customs and traditions of the people. Before merger of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state in Uttar Pradesh in 1949, its rulers promulgated a number of laws from time to time to regulate the working of these bodies. When the state became part of U. P., laws applicable to the panchayats, Kshettra Samitis, and the Zila Parishads in U. P. were extended to the district.

The enforcement of U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, in the district in the year 1963 ushered in a three-tier system of local self-government for the rural areas, the *gaon* panchayats being at the base, the Kshettra Samitis in the middle and the Zila Parishad at the apex, all the three being organically inter-related.

Gaon Panchayats

The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was enforced in this district in 1950 and the total number of *gaon sabhas* was 691 in 1966-67. The *gaon* panchayat, under this Act, is the executive body of the *gaon sabha*.

A *gaon sabha* is constituted for a village or a group of villages, the total population of which should not normally be less than 250. All the adults, male and female, are members of the *gaon sabha*. The *gaon sabha* elects a *pradhan* (presiding officer) and the members of *gaon* panchayat for a term of 5 years. The *pradhan* of the *gaon sabha* also acts as the presiding officer of the *gaon* panchayat. Elections are held on the basis of joint electorate with reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes. The *up-pradhan* (vice-president) is elected by the members of the *gaon* panchayat for one year only. The number of members of a *gaon* panchayat is fixed in proportion to the population of the particular *gaon sabha* and generally ranges from 15 to 30.

The *gaon sabha* is intended to constitute the fundamental basis of an active and conscious peasant-democracy which is not only to integrate but also to initiate all the rural development policies and programmes. To provide it with resources it is empowered to levy a number of taxes. The activities of the panchayats include, among others, construction, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets; medical relief; sanitation and prevention of epidemics; upkeep and supervision of buildings, land and other property of the *gaon sabha*; registration of births, deaths and marriages; removal of encroachments on streets and public land; regulation of places for the disposal of the dead; regulation of markets and fairs; establishment of junior Basic schools; management of public land and grazing grounds; construction and repair of public wells and tanks; youth, women

and child welfare activities; maintenance of records relating to census; establishment of libraries, reading-rooms, playgrounds and community radio listening centres.

The main sources of income of the panchayats are government grants, taxes collected by them and voluntary contributions.

The following statement gives the amount of taxes assessed and collected by the panchayats of the district from 1965-66 to 1967-68.

Year	Taxes assessed Rs	Taxes collected Rs
1965-66	26,380	23,915
1966-67	21,928	22,300
1967-68 (up to November 1967) ..	22,994	10,402

The total income of the panchayats in 1966-67 was Rs 7,13,756 which included Rs 22,300 as the amount of taxes realised, Rs 2,89,487 as government grant, Rs 2,82,045 raised from voluntary contribution and Rs 1,19,924 as income from other miscellaneous sources. The total expenditure, however, incurred by these panchayats on various activities in the same year amounted to Rs 7,92,993 of which Rs 7,44,642 was spent on the construction of roads and other public works alone and Rs 48,351 on various miscellaneous activities.

To provide to the villagers cheap and quick justice in petty cases, the Panchayat Raj Act, also provides for the constitution of *nyaya* panchayats for the rural areas of the district. There were 81 such *nyaya* panchayats for 691 *goan sabhas* in 1966-67, the jurisdiction of one *nyaya* panchayat extending to more than 8 *gaon sabhas* on an average.

Kshettra Samitis

There are 10 Kshettra Samitis in the district, one each for every development block. With the enforcement of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, in the district, functions that had previously been the concern of the block development committees devolved upon the Kshettra Samitis. A Kshettra Samiti comprises all the *pradhans* of the constituent *gaon sabhas*, the chairman of the town area and notified area committees existing within the block area, members of the legislatures (Central and State) having their constituencies in the block and representatives of the co-operative institutions in the block. Members of the Zila Parishad who are elected from the block area are also members of the Samiti of that block. Seats are also reserved for women and Scheduled Castes. The *pramukh* (chairman) and two *up-pramukhs*, one senior and one junior are elected by the members of the Kshettra Samiti for a term of 5 years. The block development officer acts as the chief executive officer of the Samiti.

The Kshettra Samitis are responsible for the preparation and execution of the Five-year Plan schemes of the *gaon sabhas* under its jurisdiction. Their main functions are: development of agriculture, live-stock and fisheries; construction of minor irrigation works; establishment of primary health, maternity and child-welfare centres; prevention and control of epidemics; providing junior Basic education; promotion and development of cottage and village industries and co-operative institutions; undertaking child, women and Harijan welfare activities.

Zila Parishad

After the merger of the state in U. P., a district planning committee was constituted for this district in 1952 for supervising various developmental activities in the rural areas. This arrangement continued till 1958 when an Antarim Zila Parishad was established under the Antarim Zila Parishads Act, 1958. The district planning committee was also amalgamated with this body. This interim body had 68 members and the district magistrate functioned as ex officio *adhyaksha* (presiding officer) till 1961 when a non-official *adhyaksha* took over.

After the passing of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, the word 'Antarim' was dropped and a Zila Parishad was established in the district in 1963. The members comprise all the *pramukhs* of the Kshettra Samitis, members of the Central and State legislatures elected from and residing in the district, representatives of the co-operative institutions in the district and presiding officers of the notified and town area committees. Some members are nominated by the government and seats are also reserved for women and Scheduled Castes. The total number of members of the Zila Parishad was 40 in 1967-68. Both the *adhyaksha* and *upadhyaksha* are elected by the members for periods of 5 years and one year respectively. The term of the Parishad is normally 5 years but can be extended by the State Government in special circumstances. The district planning officer is the chief executive officer of the Parishad.

The functions of the Parishad are comprehensive, embracing all those which were the concern of the district planning committee and the Antarim Zila Parishad. These include the implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes of the district and utilisation of the funds allotted by the government for this purpose in the spheres of agriculture, co-operation, animal husbandry, education, welfare of children and women, etc., as well as the collection of taxes and other dues levied by it. Six statutory sub-committees (*samitis*) of the Zila Parishad deal with Karya, Vitta, Shiksha, Sarvajanik Nirman, Jan Swasthya and Niyojan.

Finances—The Parishad had an income fo Rs 2,52,688 in the year 1966-67 which included a sum of Rs 2,06,526 received from the government as grant, a sum of Rs 3,987 as income from fairs and exhibitions and a sum of Rs 42,175 as income from miscellaneous sources. The expenditure

during that year amounted to Rs 2,16,764 of which a sum of Rs 55,275 was spent on general administration, a sum of Rs 4,670 on education, a sum of Rs 1,867 on medical and public health activities, a sum of Rs 1,12,841 on public works, a sum of Rs 6,653 on fairs and exhibitions and a sum of Rs 35,457 on other miscellaneous activities. (Details of the income and expenditure of the Parishad from 1958-59 to 1966-67 are given in Table VIII of the Appendix).

Education—The educational institutions of the district were originally under the control of the State Government since the merger of the state in U. P. in 1949. In 1961, the State Government decided to transfer these to the charge of the Zila Parishad. The Parishad gives stipends, money for purchase of books and other financial help to the Scheduled Castes and Momin and Ansar students up to VIII class. The Parishad spent a sum of Rs 4,670 in this way in 1966-67.

Medical and Public Health—All the medical and public health activities are being undertaken by the government. A scheme to transfer some of them to the Parishad is under the consideration of the State Government. There are three homoeopathic dispensaries at Nai Dogi, Kapholgaon and Tungoli Makhalogi in the district, opened by the State Homoeopathic Board and the Parishad gave a subsidy of Rs 1,867 in all to them in 1966-67.

Public Works—The Parishad spent an amount of Rs 1,12,841 in 1966-67 on the maintenance and repairs of nearly 267 km. of roads under its management and other public works activities. The Parishad has its own office building and a dak bungalow at Tehri.

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CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

In ancient times the region formed part of Kedar Khand celebrated as a centre of Vedic culture. The hymns of the Vedas are said to have been collected and compiled in this region which was the stronghold of Hindu religion and Sanskrit learning. The age-old routes of pilgrimage to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri and to places far beyond the Himalayas also traversed this district.

Places like Vasishtgupha, Shrikantha, Dasharathasila, Ganeshprayag, Lachhman Jhula, Devaprayag, Balakhilla-parvat and many others owe their names to renowned sages and persons of influence. Being a part of Kedar Khand, the district seems to have been the matrix of religious and cultural learning and has continued through the centuries to attract to itself ascetics, scholars and those nearing the end of their lives. According to a legend saint Vasihta had an *ashram* (hermitage) at Vasishtgupha, situated at a distance of a few kilometres from Tapoban. King Dashartha and his son, Lachhman,[1] are said to have done penance respectively at the place now known as Dasharathasila in Devaprayag tahsil, and Tapoban, at a short distance from Lachhman Jhula. According to a local belief, the sage, Balakhilla, had his *ashram* in this area near the river Bhillangana, whose name is also associated with the sage. According to a local tradition, sage Devasharma built his *ashram* at Devaprayag, named after him, and led a life of penance. Swami Ram Tirtha also spent some time at Vasisht ashram in the *patti* of Hindau where a number of saints had taken a vow to devote their lives to the spread of education.[1] The text of the *Kaushitaki-Brahmana* also describes the tract as the region of Pathya Svasti, the goddess of speech, who, in ancient scriptures, has been described as the inventress of the Brahmi letters which were so called from one of her names.

As elsewhere in ancient times, education was imparted in the *ashramas* under the personal guidance of gurus and regular studentship began with the initiation ceremony called *upanayana samskar*. The *ashramas* were the centres of learning and culture. The pupil was allowed to pursue the studies of his choice, and was in addition given special teaching in the Vedas and the traditional branches of learning such as *itihasa-purana* (legends and ancient lore), *vyakarana* (grammar), *chhandashastra* (prosody), *jyotish* (astrology and astranomy), *anvikshiki* (philosophy), *ganita*

1 Hari Dutta Shastri and S. Temples : *Tehri Garhwal Tirthavarnan*, p. 64.

shastra (mathemamics), *dharmashastra* (law), *shastravidya* (state-craft and militry science) and Ayurvedic (the science of medicine). Special emphasis was placed on the study of the Vedas (including *Mimansa Karmakanda*) and *vyakarana*. Education was given free of cost but the student was expected to help the teacher in his household and farm work, not by way of remuneration, but for the development of an intimate relationship between the teacher and the pupil which was supposed to inculcate in the latter the attitudes of obedience, service, austerity and purity of conduct. The individual was the chief concern and centre of this system and the development of character and the acquisition of learning, piety and sacred lore and their application in practice were its chief aims. The poorest in society was also able to receive the benefits of education The local residents mainly the *pandas* of Devaprayag established the Raghunath Kirti Ashram to propagate the ancient system of the *gurukula* type of education.

In course of time the system of education under the direct guidance of and in the personal contact with the teacher (guru) became traditional; establishments where no fees were charged being called private *pathshalas*, generally located in the vicinity of a temple or near a grove. This system of education remained unaltered during the reign of the rajas of the erstwhile state of Tehri-Garhwal but suffered considerably during the interregnum (1804--1815) when the Nepalese held sway over Garhwal.

Writing about the educational system in Kumaon, Traill, the commissioner observed in 1823, "There are no public institutions of the nature of schools, and private tution is almost confined to the upper classes. The teachers are commonly Brahmans who impart to their scholars the mere knowledge of reading, writing and accounts. The children of respectable Brahmans are also taught Sanskrit and are occasionally sent to Benares to complete their studies, where they pass through the usual course of Hindu education." The British government established the first *pathshala* in 1857 in this region.

During the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century emphasis was mainly on primary education and facilities for higher and girls' education were negligible. Raja Pratap Sah (1871–86) started a middle school at Tehri which is till functioning as the Government Pratap Intermediate College. Later on a few schools for teaching English were also opened in addition to several primary schools and Sanskrit *pathshalas*.

At the time of the merger in 1949 there were 144 Basic primary schools, 7 junior high schools and an intermediate college in the area comprising the present district of Tehri-Garhwal. Since then, significant progress has been achieved in the matter of expansion of educational facilities in the district.

Literacy and Education

According to the 1961 census, the literate and educated males and females in the district numbered 51,817 and 3,797, respectively, their percentages in relation to total males and females in the district being 32.8 and 2.0, respectively. In the rural areas, the literate and educated males and females numbered 48,174 and 2,525 respectively, while, in the urban area, they numbered 3,643 and 1,272, respectively. The percentage of the total number of literate and educated persons to the total population of the district was 15.9. Of the total number of literates and educated persons of the district 69.1 per cent were without any recognised educational standard.

The following statement shows, separately for urban and rural areas, the number of literate and illiterate persons in the district, and the number of those who had received education up to various recognised standards :

Educational standard	Total	Males	Female
URBAN			
Illiterate	2,681	,203	1,478
Literate (without educational level) ..	1,733	1,014	719
Primary or junior Basic	1,896	1,457	439
Matriculation or higher secondary ..	927	823	104
Technical diploma not equal to degree ..	74	74	..
Non-technical diploma not equal to degrees ..	115	115	..
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	135	129	6
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree in—			
Medicine	9	8	1
Agriculture	8	8	..
Veterinary and dairying	2	2	..
Teaching	13	10	3
Engineering	3	3	..
Total population	7,596	4,846	2,750
RURAL			
Illiterate	2,89,441	1,04,889	1,84,552
Literate (without educational level) ..	36,738	34,841	1,897
Primary or junior Basic	12,241	1,650	591
Matriculation and above	1,720	1,683	37
Total population	3,40,140	1,53,063	1,87,077

It would be clear from the statement that the district has very little female education and that an overwhelming majority of women is illiterate. There is no institution imparting university or higher technical education situated within the district and aspiring students have to go out to other districts for the purpose.

General Education

General education now includes education from the pre-junior Basic or nursery to the university stage. In 1966-67 the number of junior Basic schools was 626 (of which 116 were for girls) and that of senior Basic schools 45 (including 18 for girls). There were 6 higher secondary schools for boys and 2 for girls of which the three for boys at Tehri, Narendra Nagar and Lambgaon and the one for girls at Tehri were intermediate colleges. The following statement shows the number of schools and enrolment in them as on March 31, 1967 :

Type of school	Boys		Girls	
	Number of school	Number of students	Number of schools	Number of students
Junior Basic	510	22,954	116	7,773
Senior Basic for junior high school ..	27	3,851	18	249
Higher Secondary (up to Class X) ..	3	1,081	1	328
Higher Secondary (up to Class XII) ..	3	1,234	1	22

Junior and Senior Basic Stage

The Wardha scheme of education which was adopted by the State government with certain modifications including the introduction of an eight-year course of studies comprising the junior Basic from class VI to VIII is in operation in the district.

The four fundamentals of this scheme of education are that free and compulsory education be provided by the State for 8 years; the mother-tongue be made the medium of instruction; the process of

education should centre round some useful handicrafts enabling the child to produce something of utility from the moment his training is begun; and that every school be self-supporting.

All senior and junior Basic schools except a few are run by the State government and a deputy inspector of schools and an assistant inspectress of girls' schools, both belonging to the education department of the State are in immediate charge of boys' and girls' education respectively. In 1966-67 as many as 29 junior high schools for boys and one for girls were being run under private management.

Re-orientation Scheme

The re-orientation scheme, which aims at training students in agriculture is in vogue in 28 institutions in the district of which four are higher secondary schools. In 1966-67 the land attached to these institutions for teaching agriculture was 65.5 hectares and the total income from these farms was Rs 2,660.

No tution fee is leived in any class up to Class VI from boys and up to Class X from girls. The non-governmental institutions are compensated for this loss in fees by government grants.

Secondary Education

Secondary education extends from the junior Basic stage to the intermediate classes. Formerly a high school started from Class III but with the re-organisation of education in the State in 1948, Classes III to V were transferred to the junior Basic schools, the higher secondary schools starting from Class VI. Secondary education now covers studies beyond the junior Basic stage up to class XII.

Before the merger of the state there was only one higher secondary school at Tehri in the area now comprised in the district. In 1966-67 there were eight higher secondary schools in the district of which two were for girls. Except two schools, one for boys and the other for girls, which were privately managed all were maintained by the State government and had 2,675 students on roll and 142 teachers (including 28 women) taught in them. Of these schools four imparted education up to the intermediate standard to 1,266 students and the remaining 4 with 1,409 students up to Class X. There was only one higher secondary school (up to Class X) for girls with 328 students at Tehri.

The following statement gives relevant particulars about these institution:

Name of institution	For boys or girls	Year of establishment	Founder	Status when upgraded and its year	Imparting education upto	Number of pupils (1966-67)	Number of teachers (1966-67)	Income in rupees (1966-67)	Expenditure in rupees (1966-67)	Government or private managed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Government Pratap Intermediate College, Tehri	Boys	1876	Raja Pratap Sah	High School in 1897 and Intermediate in 1940.	Class XII	677	31	11,806	1,46,119	State Government
Government Higher Secondary School, Anjanisain	Boys	1936	Tehri state	High School in 1949	Class X	362	15	7,576	65,608	Ditto
Government Higher Secondary School, Chamba	Boys	1936	Local public	High School in 1949	Class X	447	19	19,705	57,415	Ditto
Shri Saraswati Intermediate College, Lambgaon	Boys	1940	Local public	High School in 1950 and Intermediate in 1965.	Class XII	280	13	48,561	45,016	Private management
Government Higher Secondary School, Dhuneti Dhar	Boys	1948	Tehri state	High School in 1961.	Class X	272	14	4,381	51,979	State Government
Government Intermediate College, Narendra Nagar	Boys	1949	Do.	High school in 1950 and Intermediate in 1965.	Class XII	277	21	12,936	1,02,187	Ditto
Maharani Nepaliya Kanya Higher Secondary School Tehri	Girls	1930	Do.	High School in 1952.	Class X	28	23	2,960	57,415	Ditto
Narendra Mahila Vidyalaya, Tehri	Girls	1962	Rajmata Tehri-Garhwal		Class XII	32	6	55,113	41,636	Private management

Education of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes

To encourage education amongst the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes, incentives like free education, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance (for books, stationery, etc.) are provided by the State. The number of students reading in various classes who received financial assistance from government in 1966-67 was as follows :

Standard	Scheduled Castes		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Junior and Senior Basic ..	164	6	28	4
Higher Secondary (up to Class X) ..	22	1	1	..
Higher Secondary (up to Glass XII) ..	4	..	..	..

Professional and Technical Education

Teachers' Training

To meet the growing demand for trained teachers in the district the State government established a normal school at Tehri in 1949. It prepares candidates for the Hindustani Teachers' Certificate and the Basic Teachers' Certificate, the duration of the training for the former is 2 years and for the latter one year. In 1966-67 there were 113 students and 9 teachers in the school and a sum of Rs 70,275 was spent by the government on it.

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Mali Training

A *mali* (gardner) training centre was started in 1964-65 at Magra in the Jaunpur development block for impartating training in the art of pruning, grafting, plant protection measures and use of insecticides. The number of persons who received such training in 1964-65 was 25 and of those who were trained in 1965-66 and 1966-67 was 28 and 22 respectively. The centre was closed in 1967-68.

Vocational Training

In 1950-51 a Government Industrial and Technical Institute was established at Tehri to impart vocational training in handicrafts such as carpentry, spinning and weaving of wool, tailoring, knitting, etc. During the training each trainee is awarded a stipend, ranging from Rs 20 to Rs 25 per month. On the successful completion of the training diplomas and certificates are awarded by the industries department. On March 31, 1967 there were 27 trainees in the institute.

Education for Physically Handicapped

The Indumati Andh Shishu Sharnalaya Society was established at Tehri in 1961 to impart education to blind children. In 1966-67 it was imparting education including training in cane-work and spinning to 16 students. The society provides free education and the funds for the boarding, lodging, clothing and other like expenses on the students.

Oriental Education

Sanskrit

The region has been a cultural and religious centre in the past where Sanskrit learning flourished for centuries. Sanskrit was taught in *pathshalas* generally attached to temples. In mediaeval times the rajas of Srinagar (district Garhwal) and later of Tehri-Garhwal patronised Sanskrit learning and many of them used to collect a number of Sanskritist scholars, poets, astrologers, and practitioners of Ayurveda at their court. They helped pandits to run Sanskrit *pathshalas* and aspiring students to proceed to Varanasi for higher studies. The later rajas also, particularly Kirti Sah and Narendra Sah of Tehri took keen interest in the expansion of Sanskrit education. With the beginning of the present century, however, many old Sanskrit *pathshalas* ceased to exist, while some new ones were opened. The following statement gives relevant particulars about the existing institutions :

Name and location	Year of establishment	Founder	Number of students	Higher examination
Rajkiya Sanskir Mahavidyalaya, Tehri	1907	Kirti Sah	32	Acharya.
Darshan Mahavidyalaya, Muni-ki-Reti	1919	Raghvacharya	17	Do.
Rajikya Sanskrit Pathshala, Mukhem	1924	Narendra Sah	10	Madhyama.
Rajkiya Sanskirt Pathshala, Soudu Hinsiryakhal.	1944	Narendra Sah	34	Do.
Rajkiya Sanskirt Pathshala, Chamba	1946	Do.	26	Do.
Rajkiya Sanskrit Pathshala Amri, Hindolakhal.	1948	Do.	17	Do.
Shiv Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Shieval Gaon, Majaph Onr.	1964	Ram Krishna Sastrii	32	Do.

Physical Education

Physical education is given to boys and girls in almost all categories of educational institutions.

of the education department is functioning in the Government Intermediate College, Narendra Nagar. The Auxiliary Cadet Corps scheme is in vogue in the government higher secondary schools at Chamba and Anjanisain. The training of scouts and guides is undertaken in all the educational institutions of the district. Regional meets are also organised where mass physical training exercises and displays take place.

Fine Arts and Music

Folk Dances and Folk Songs

Tehri Garhwal forms part of the tract known as Garhwal. Its hilly terrain and lack of easy communication have helped it to preserve its culture as also its folk songs and dances, almost intact. There is dearth of fertile land in the district and men have to work hard to earn their living. Their womenfolk join them in their agricultural operations. Generally men and women engage themselves in singing and dancing after the days' hard work. It may be the beginning of an agricultural operation like transplanting paddy or harvesting the Rabi crop or the birth of a baby or the death of a relative, but people generally sing songs or perform dances suited to the occasion. The songs may be sung solo, but the dances are necessarily congregational.

The chanting of the folk songs and the performance of dances are accompanied by various musical instruments. Some of the traditional musical instruments are the *murli, binai, turhi, hurka, dhol, nagara, damru, jhanjh* and *thali*. The *hurka* and flute are the main instruments of music. The musical instruments of modern times which are becoming popular are the *dholak, kartal, chimta, majira,* harmonium, etc., but to keep the sanctity of the festive occasions the use of the traditional instruments is preferred. Distinguished guests are received with the blowing of *ransinghas* (trumpets) and the beating of drums.

The dances of the district are religious or recreational. Religious dances are very popular in the district and are divided among the Tandava and Lasya. The Tandava dance is mostly related to the worship of the Pandavas, Narsinha, Nagelo, Nirankar, Kshetrapal, Binsar, Ghantakarna and a few other local deities of the district and the Lasya dance is associated with the *achharis* (nymph) in which evil spirits are worshipped to get rid of them.

Of the popular folk dances of the district a few of the better known are described below:

Pandava dance is generally performed in every village of the district during the winter after harvesting of the crop and as the name denotes, depicts the principal events of the *Mahabharata,* though some episodes like the bathing of Kunti, search of a rhinoceros for the funeral rites of Pandu and the romance of Arjun and Vasavdatta which are not found in

the spic are also added. Usually 6 persons (5 men representing the five Pandavas and one woman representing their common consort, Draupadi) take part though others join in when the dance is at its peak. It is a vigorous and rhythmic dance, the dancers changing their steps with the change in the beat of drums. It sometimes continues for hours and those getting tired are replaced by others from the crowd.

Sarav dance is in vogue among the drum beaters and is said to be based on a book named *Dhol Sagar*. Two drum beaters stand face to face with their drums hanging from their necks and dance with rhythmic steps while beating the drums.

Yatra dance is a walking dance . Generally people celebrate festivals and fairs in the temples or at some common place and to reach there have to cover long distances. On such occasions people going there join together to dance and sing songs.

Thadya dance derives its name from the courtyard because it is performed in it. This dance is always circular and the dancers are divided into 2 parties each holding the shoulders of the other. The whole dance is based on the striking movements of the feet and pacing in a rhythmic style. It is also called Raso as it is a Ras dance. This dance has many forms and styles which are called by different names such as Chopathi and Chaunfula. Chaunfula is also a circular dance in which shoulders are not joined but hands move along with the feet. Chopathi is a very graceful dance based on steps in which 2 parties, one of men and the other of women participate.

In Jagar dance the spirit of a local deity such as Nirankar, Nagraja, Narsinha, Bhairon, Shakti, etc., is invoked by reciting songs in praise of it, and dancing. The performance has a ritualistic importance and takes place usually in the long winter season, all participants keeping awake, and when it reaches its climax the person in whom the spirit of the god enters begins to tremble and gets into a state of trance signifying the possession of him by divine powers.

Jhora and Chanchari are the popular danges of the district and are accompanied by songs as well, the former being associated with the coming of the spring season. The participants—men, women or both—hold each other by the hand and then they bend forward slowly in their movements. The main singer sings and dances inside the circle formed by the other participants who follow him. It is a community dance. In Chanchari the movements are slower than in the Jhora and the circle is often divided into semi-circles. This dance is mostly performed during fairs and festivals.

Cholia is a pure folk dance having no song at all, the dancers presenting the warring scenes of Rajput heroes and having swords and shields in their hands. The swift steps are the peculiar features of this dance.

There is a professional class of dancers and singers known as Vaddyi, the name having been derived from the Sanskrit word *vadya*, meaning an instrument of music. They are the worshippers of Siva, perhaps because Siva is called Natraj and these people are also called Nats. The Vaddyis go from village to village and perform dances to earn their livelihood. Their women known as Vaddyini perform dances and the men sing songs and beat the *dholak*. Formerly there were other classes of dancers such as the Dhakkis and Mirasis but they have now left this profession.

Other traditional folk dances of the district are the Thadiya, which is accompanied by songs and is performed on Basant Panchami and the Mela which is popular during Divali and Holi.

Of the more well-known folk songs mention may be made of Chopathi, Thadiya, Chaunfula, Jhumailo, Lamanr, Khuder, Bazuband, Mangal, Chhura, Pandava, Panwara, Raso, Jhora, Tudi, Chanchari and Cholia, the first 5 are actually the names of the dances and the songs sung with them are also called by the same name. The Chopathi, Bazuband and Lamanr are love songs.[1]

The Panwaras are ballads in praise of local heroes. Some romantic Panwaras also sing of war and love with pathos and beauty. These were previously recited in times of battles and were helpful in keeping up the morale of the fighting soldiers. They were composed by Champhyas, Hudakiyas or Bhats who used *champh* or *hudaka* (drum) while singing the songs.

The Khuder songs are those which describe the suffering of married girls when separated from their parents and husbands.

Bazubands are conversational songs of love and attachment and are sung by lovers as dialogues and have in them a lot of romance, love and adventure. Lamanrs and Chopathis are also folk songs of love, the former being sung on festivals and the latter in community dances.

The Mangals are sung by women on the occasion of marriage ceremonies. Every rite of a ceremony is followed by a song. These are full of poetic appeal and describe the feelings of the girl and her parents.

The Chhuras are didactic songs dealing with life, love and death in the light of mature experience.

1 *Hindi Sahitya Ka Vrahata Itihasa* (Vol XV) *Hindi Ka Lok Sahitya*, edited by Rahul Sankratayan and K. D. Upadhaya, (Varanasi, V. S. 2017), pp. 604—605

The costume of the folk dancers and singers is worth mentioning. It consists of a long *chola* (shirt), a belt around the waist, narrow piped white pyjamas and a big turban for the head. Turbans are sometimes replaced by caps. Sandal wood paste and red vermilion are applied to the faces of dancers and some of whom also wear ear-rings.

The various fairs locally known as *thalus* and festivals of the district have played a major role in preserving the art and technique of these folk songs and dances. The invasions of the Muslims and Gurkhas also find place in folk songs of the district. Besides the freedom struggle gave birth to a number of folk songs. The themes of these songs are generally based on historical and religious events but a number of them also deal with the tyranny of the rajas, the excessive taxation, and the exorbitant rate of land revenue and the cruelty of the officers of the rajas, Thakurs, *thokdars* and jaghirdars. Patriots like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Subhash Chandra Bose and Sri Deva Suman have found place in these songs. Various programmes which are being executed in the community development blocks of the district are also sometimes described in these songs.

Libraries And Reading Rooms

The Suman Pustakalaya at Tehri is run under public management and is aided by the Government. It has 6,906 books and a large number of persons make use of them. The Nehru Library at Narendra Nagar is managed by the Notified Area Committee, Narendra Nagar and has a good stock of books. The State education expansion department runs 16 libraries in the rural areas of the district where a few newspapers and periodicals are also available to the public.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Facilities in Early Times

The system of medicine practised in these parts since early times was Ayurveda, which is derived from the words *ayuh* (life) and *veda* (knowledge). The physicians practising this system were generally known as *vaids* and *bhishaks*. They used herbal and other medicines for cure and also possessed some surgical knowledge. Many of the plants and herbs greatly valued in Ayurveda and widely used for their therapeutic properties, are found in these parts, such as *atis, banhaldi, dhatura, mitha* and *nirbisi*. Minerals such as sulphur, borax, gypsum and *silajit* are also considered to have therapeutic value. The ancient medical practitioners made considerable use of these herbs, plants and minerals in their medicinal preparations. The rajas of Garhwal provided these practitioners security and necessary facilities.

These *vaids* moved from place to place with their medicines and treated patients at their residences. They regarded service to humanity as their duty and generally speaking they did not expect any remuneration for their services.

The surgery of the ancient Indian doctors appears to have been bold and skilful. They performed amputations, and a number of other difficult operations, and were expert in midwifery. However not many people took to the medical profession in the mediaeval period and it passed into the hands of village physicians who were not well versed in the profession. Sulphur was recommended as a panacea for all ills. It was locally available as an impure sulphate of alumina and was sold as a minor forest produce by the contractors, who used to do a brisk business on the pilgrim routes to Yamunotri and Gangotri in the past.

The British made attempts to study the various diseases prevalent in the region in the 19th and 20th centuries and the ruler of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state, established two allopathic dispensaries one each at Tehri and Devaprayag and a Female Hospital at Tehri in the first decade of the 20th century. An asylum for the lepers of the district of Pauri Garhwal and the state of Tehri Garhwal was opened at Srinagar (in Pauri Garhwal) in 1901. The Tehri Garhwal ruler contributed towards its maintenance. He also maintained a large number of Ayurvedic dispensaries in the State. Chamba was the centre of this branch of medicine, being rich in medicinal herbs. There were about 30 such Ayurvedic dispensaries in the thirties of this century, each manned by a *vaid*. The Suman Hospital, Narendra Nagar, was established in 1929 and the Male

Hospital, Tehri, was established only a few years afterwards and allopathic dispensaries were established at Kodipantwari, Chamba, and Lambgaon by the forties of this century. Only one medical officer assisted by compounders and nurses used to look after all these institutions. Tehri was the headquarters of this medical officer.

Two allopathic dispensaries were established one each at Saklana and Anjanisain in the First Five-year Plan period. During the Third Five-year Plan period a T. B. Clinic was opened at Tehri (August, 1963), and an urban family planning clinic at Narendra Nagar (1964), a venereal diseases clinic also at Narendra Nagar and 5 survey education treatment centres for leprosy, one each at Narendra Nagar, Chamba, Pilkhi, Thatyuar, and Kodipantwari. The old Ayurvedic dispensaries have been revived and properly equipped. There were 32 Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district in 1967.

Besides, there is a leprosy clinic at Muni-ki-Reti, and an eye hospital and a dispensary at Sivanandanagar, managed by private bodies. The leprosy clinic was established in 1953 by the leprosy relief association of the district, and the hospital and the dispensary are managed by a religious trust.

The leprosy relief association, which is known as Kusht Niwarak Samiti was established in 1950, the district magistrate, Tehri Garhwal, is its president, ex officio, and the district medical officer of health is its secretary, ex officio. A number of religious trusts, and transport agencies at Rishikesh are members of the association and contribute towards the expenditure of the leprosy clinic. The U. P. government and the Hind Kusht Niwaran Sangh, U. P. branch, Lucknow, also contribute sums of Rs 10,000 and Rs 5,000 respectively per annum to the clinic which has 120 beds and provided treatment to as many indoor patients in 1967. The clinic is manned by a doctor, a manager and 4 others.

The Sivananda Eye Hospital was opened in 1956 and is run by a doctor and 4 others. As many as 549 indoor patients and 9,699 outdoor patients were treated in 1967. Facilities for operations and refractions are available in the hospital. The Sivananda dispensary treated 14,702 outdoor patients in 1968 and it is manned by a doctor and 3 others.

Vital Statistics

Vital statistics for the period prior to the merger of the State are not available.

However, efforts made by the erstwhile ruler and, since 1950, by the State government have considerably improved the environmental sanitation and the health and medical services in the district. Epidemics

(cholera, plague, etc.) which used to swell up the death-rate, occur rarely now and in isolated places. The following statement gives the total number of births and deaths recorded annually since 1952 to 1966 :

Year	Total births	Total deaths
1952	10,207	5,986
1953	8,539	6,225
1954	7,621	5,333
1955	6,365	3,492
1956	6,295	4,205
1957	6,258	Not available
1958	8,429	5,040
1959	8,352	4,575
1960	7,351	3,625
1961	6,695	4,485
1962	7,204	Not available
1963	7,439	4,233
1964	8,851	4,208
1965	8,961	4,126
1966	8,790	4,733

The birth and death-rates in the district for the years 1961—1966 are given below :

Year	Birth-rate (per thousand)	Death-rate (per thousand)
1961	19.18	9.26
1962	20.39	12.69
1963	21.12	11.84
1964	24.47	11.63
1965	24.50	11.28
1966	23.76	12.79

Infant mortality has also shown a downward trend since 1954 and it was lowest in 1960. The annual infant mortality is given in the following statement :

Year	Infant mortality	Rate per 1,000
1952	1,471	Not available
1953	1,083	Do
1954	670	Do
1955	325	Do
1956	380	Do
1957	Not available	Do
1958	524	Do
1959	318	Do
1960	264	Do
1961	279	36.15
1962	Not available	35.45
1963	369	48.88
1964	610	68.92
1965	658	73.43
1966	500	56.88

Common Diseases

The common diseases which cause deaths in the district are fever, respiratory diseases, dysentery and diarrhoea, and small-pox.. Fever claimed the largest number of lives followed by dysentery and diarrhoea and respiratory diseases. Death due to other diseases was almost negligible.

Fever—The term 'fever' has wide connotations and includes not only such diseases as malaria, and typhoid, but alo covers a number of diseases in which fever is a symptom rather than the disease itself. As many as 2,380 persons died of fever in 1959 and the figure rose to 2,465 in 1963. The following statement gives the annual number of deaths due to fever in the district :

Year	Number of deaths
1952	1,896
1953	2,177
1954	2,291
1955	1,906
1956	2,091
1957	Not available
1958	2,162
1959	2,380
1960	1,806
1961	2,256
1962	Not available
1963	2,465
1964	2,329
1965	2,149
1966	2,244

Dysentery and Diarrhoea—These diseases occur in the form of bowel complaints and generally they are not seriously taken. But in 1952 as many as 888 persons died of dysentery and diarrhoea. The lowest corresponding figure was 315 in 1955. The use of unprotected drinking water is one of the major causes of these diseases. The following statement gives the number of deaths due to these diseases in the district :

Year	Dysentery (Number of deaths)	Diarrhoea (Number of deaths)
1952	487	401
1953	436	525
1954	369	247
1955	224	95
1956	289	99
1957	Not available	Not available
1958	417	242
1959	310	129
1960	253	118
1961	515	255
1962	Not available	Not available
1963	387	280
1964	331	201
1965	268	208
1966	364	248

Respiratory Diseases—These diseases do not cause immediate death but they lead to temporary and some even permanent infirmities. Also in some cases they cause early death. The worst year, as regards the respiratory diseases, was 1966, when 536 persons died of them. The following statement gives the number of deaths due to respiratory diseases in the district from 1952 to 1966 :

Year	Number of deaths
1952	314
1953	339
1954	311
1955	184
1956	235
1957	Not available
1958	327
1959	407
1960	346
1961	409
1962	Not available
1963	278
1964	523
1965	475
1966	536

Other Diseases—Leprosy and venereal diseases are among the other diseases, which claim lives in the district. As many as 246 and 432 persons suffered from leprosy and venereal diseases respectively in 1967. Various curative and preventive measures are being taken to eradicate these diseases. A venereal diseases clinic at Narendra Nagar and 5 survey education treatment centres (for leprosy) at Narendra Nagar, Chamba, Pilkhi, Thatyuar and Kodipantwari, were established in the Third Five-year Plan period. A survey conducted by these centres in 1966 revealed that out of 5,704 persons, 21 persons were suffering from leprosy. A similar survey made in 1967 showed that out of 17,205 persons, 57 persons were affected by the disease.

Epidemics

The district is free from epidemics since the forties of this century. Cholera claimed a large number of lives in the period 1891—1910 and plague in the period 1902—1908. These diseases were generally imported by the pilgrims. The medical and health department maintains some additional temporary staff between April and October every year to inspect and superwise sanitary arrangements in the dharmsalas and hotels on the pilgrim routes. Epidemic assistants are in charge of compulsory inoculation, barriers and medical relief posts, which are established at important places along these routes. The pilgrims generally arrive by motor buses *via* the Muni-ki-Reti—Devaprayag—Tehri—Dharasu route or *via* the Muni-ki-Reti—Narendra Nagar—Tehri—Dharasu route.

Smallpox—The region had been free from small pox as intensive measures were taken by the erstwhile rulers of the state. In 1908-09 about 5.2 per cent of the population was vaccinated. Although vaccination was not compulsory, its benefits were generally appreciated. Vaccination has been extended to remote areas and it has also been intensified since 1951. This has arrested the spread of the infection and within recent years the scourge has not taken an epidemic form. The following statement gives the number of deaths due to smallpox in the district:

Year	Number of deaths
1952	Nil
1953	48
1954	20
1955	5
1956	8
1957	Not available
1958	34
1959	1
1960	8
1961	Nil
1962	Not available
1963	Nil
1964	1
1965	Nil
1966	3

Effective curative and preventive measures such as the implementation of vaccination schemes, improvement of environmental sanitation and provision of better medical facilities in the urban and rural areas have been adopted and the district has generally remained free from epidemics since 1950.

Medical Organisation

The medical and public health departments in the State were amalgamated in 1948 and a directorate of medical and health services was created which controlled the allopathic, the Ayurvedic and the Unani institutions and services in U. P. In July, 1961, a separate directorate was established at Lucknow for the effective supervision of the Ayurvedic and Unani systems. The State Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district are controlled and their expenditure borne by this directorate but their local administrative control is in the hands of the district medical officer of health.

The civil surgeon is the head of the medical organisation of the district and is in over-all charge of the State hospitals and allopathic dispensaries. The primary health centres and maternity and child welfare centres are, however, under the charge of the district medical officer of health.

Hospitals

There are three State hospitals in the district situated at Narendra Nagar and Terhi. The Suman Hospital at Narendra Nagar which is also the largest, is manned by two doctors and 5 others (nurses, compounders and *dais*). It is named after the famous patriot, Srideva Suman of the district. The hospital is equipped with modern appliances like X-ray equipment and there are 28 beds for males and 8 for females. An expenditure of about Rs 68,500 is incurred annually on it. The Male Hospital at Tehri has 17 beds for males and 8 beds for females. It is manned by 1 doctor and 3 others (2 compounders and 1 *dai*), and a sum of about Rs 32,000 is annually spent on it. The female Hospital, Tehri, has 6 beds and it is manned by a lady doctor and 2 others (a compounder and a *dai*), and the annual expenditure on it amounts to Rs 20,800. The following statement gives the number of patients treated in these hospitals in 1966:

Name of the Hospital	Patients treated	
	Indoor	Outdoor
Suman Hospital, Narendra Nagar	702	21,599
Male Hospital, Tehri	590	8,732
Female Hospital, Tehri	221	5,257

Allopathic Dispensaries

There are 8 State allopathic dispensaries in the district, situated at Devaprayag, Saklana, Kodipantwari, Chamba, Lambgaon, Anjanisain, Tehri and Narendra Nagar. The dispensary at Tehri caters to T. B. patients and that at Narendra Nagar to patients suffering from venereal diseases exclusively. Each dispensary is manned by a doctor and has a compounder and a *dai*. The expenditure incurred on a dispensary and the number of patients treated in 1966 is given in the following statement :

Name of the dispensary	Number of patients treated		Expenditure incurred (in Rs.)
	Indoor	Outdoor	
Devaprayag dispensary	66	4,519	12,000
Saklana dispensary	Nil	2,248	8,500
Kodipantwari dispensary	Nil	3,024	8,500
Chamba dispensary	Nil	1,178	5,500
Lambgaon dispensary	Nil	5,725	6,000
Anjanisain dispensary	Nil	2,832	23,000
T. B. Clinic, Tehri	Nil	2,105	9,800
Venereal diseases Clinic, Narendra Nagar	3	416	25,000

Ayurvedic Dispensaries

There are 32 Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district, each manned by a *chikitsa adhikari* (medical officer) and 3 others. As many as 1,15,561 patients were treated in these dispensaries in 1966-67. The number of patients treated in each of these dispensaries in 1966-67 is given below :

Location of the dispensary	Number of patients treated
Akhori	3,977
Bachhelikhal	4,113
Bagwan	5,635
Bhawan	6,814
Chamba	5,118
Chamiyala	5,665

Location of the Dispensary	Number of patients treated
Dangohaura	5,726
Dangi	5,399
Ghuttu	2,237
Gyansoo	3,120
Jujal	7,459
Jakhel	2,077
Jakhnidhar	5,730
Kafalpani	1,296
Kilkileshwar	1,624
Katiyalgaon	1,022
Lalooriekhal	2,842
Khaliyan	2,252
Maden Negi	7,509
Myeni Laloor	4,076
Parori	1,058
Pankhal	3,600
Paw	5,049
Pokhari	1,466
Satangal	1,239
Sandi	2,337
Sidhasaurh	3,255
Siraon	1,868
Thatibadiyargarh	3,399
Thati Kathud	2,899
Tholdhar	2,145

सत्यमेव जयते

Primary Health Centres

There are 7 primary health centres in the district under the overall charge of the district medical officer of health. The centres provide expert advice and treatment. Each centre has a number of maternity centres (attached to it) A health officer is in charge of all these primary health centres of which each has a health visitor, a compounder and one to 2 *dais.*

The year of establishment of each public health centre and its location is given in the following statement :

Health centre	Name of Development Block in which located	Year of establishment
Pilkhi	Bhillangana ..	1948
Kirti Nagar	Kirti Nagar ..	1948
Jakholi	Jakholi ..	1958
Hindolkhal	Devaprayag ..	1962
Thiyuar	Jaunpur ..	1962
Chamba	Chamba ..	1964
Palkot	Narendra Nagar ..	1967

Public Health Services

The district medical officer of health supervises public health activities in the rural and urban areas, in which he is assisted by medical officers, sanitary inspectors, health visitors and others. He is also the district registrar for vital statistics, the superintendent of vaccination (under the Vaccination Act, 1880), the licensing authority for food establishments (under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954) and is also responsible for anti-epidemic measures.

Public health has been sought to be improved by providing clean drinking water and public latrines. *Diggis* or covered wells have been constructed to provide clean water. Drainage was also improved. About 93 per cent of the population was vaccinated against smallpox by the end of the Third Five-year Plan. The following statement gives the achievements in the Third Five-year Plan :

Number of pure water *diggis* constructed	..	..	853
Number of P. R. A. I type latrines constructed	..	..	122
Length of the open drains (cement-concrete) laid		..	8 km.

Efforts are being made to provide protected water. The notified area committees at Tehri, Narendra Nagar and Devaprayag propose to provide chlorinated water by installing suitable plants in the Fourth Five-year Plan period.

Maternity and Child Welfare

In order to bring down the high rate of infant mortality a network of maternity and child welfare centres has been established in the district in recent years. The staff posted at these centres renders medical advice

*Designed bythe Planning Research and Action Institute, Lucknow

and aid to the women visiting the centres and also pays domiciliary visits. There are 23 maternity and child welfare centres in the district functioning under the primary health centres and 15 other such centres are directly under the district medical officer of health. The maternity centres are located at Thatyuar, Bhawan, Kodipantwari, Kempti, Uniyalgaon, Kirti Nagar, Khola, Dagar, Jakholi, Jakhel, Sidhasaurh, Dangi, Bhiri, Ghuttu, Chamba, Nagani, Nakot, Pangarkhal, Devaprayag, Hindolkhal, Hinsriyakhal, Paurikhal, Bachhelikhal (under the primary health centres scheme), and at Gular, Palkot, Pokhari, Narendra Nagar, Gadoliya, Maden Negi, Ratoli, Semaldhar, Tehri, Tholdhar, Kafalpani, Chham, Lambgaon, Sera, Okhalkhal (directly under the district medical officer of health). During the three years (1964, 1965 and 1966) the midwives and *dais* conducted 520, 841 and 517 maternity cases respectively.

The State government has also arranged the training of midwives and nurses at the various training centres. The trainees coming from this district are given an additional non-recurring grant of Rs 100 for purchasing initial equipment. The *dais* are trained in the maternity and child welfare centres at Narendra Nagar, Thatyuar, Kempti, Kirti Nagar, Jakholi, Tehri, Chamba, and Devaprayag. A trainee must be literate. The period of training is 6 months and a stipend of Rs 35 per month is given to each trainee. The number of *dais* trained in the last 12 years is given below:

Year	Number of *dais* trained
1956	10
1957	7
1958	Nil
1959	8
1960	7
1961	5
1962	7
1963	1
1964	5
1965	11
1966	14
1967	2

Vaccination—Every year a large number of persons are vaccinated in spite of the fact that vaccination is not compulsory in the district. There are 27 vaccinators in the district and 22 of them work in the rural areas and the rest in the towns. They work under an assistant superintendent of vaccination, with headquarters at Tehri. During epidemics, sanitary inspectors, epidemic assistants and nursing assistants are also entrusted with the work of vaccination. The following statement gives the number of primary vaccinations and secondary vaccinations in the district during the years 1955 to 1967 :

Year	Number of primary vaccinations	Number of re-vaccinations	
		Successful	Unsuccessful
1955	14,505	40,500	11,625
1956	13,770	41,040	3,235
1957	15,232	54,703	1,767
1958	16,224	55,502	3,107
1959	12,011	60,665	2,078
1960	12,815	51,409	4,000
1961	12,079	30,559	10,470
1962	9,792	20,650	10,393
1963	12,476	60,430	3,881
1964	24,999	20,303	2,365
1965	15,272	75,177	51,360
1966	9,947	34,230	1,977
1967	15,377	60,922	5,710

Malaria Eradication Programme—The National Malaria Control Programme was launched in the district in 1958-54. The Dehra Dun unit (known as hyper-meso-endemic unit) looks after the implementation of the programme in the Tehri Garhwal district. One senior field worker and two junior field workers are posted at Tehri. Malaria has been noticed generally in and around Tehri and Muni-ki-Reti.

D. D. T. spraying was carried out twice a year till the end of 1966, and it was discontinued on the recommendation of the independent appraisal team of the Government of India. However, active and passive surveillance over the incidence of malaria is kept through the Dehra Dun unit, and the hospitals and dispensaries respectively. There are 19 active

surveillance teams operating in the district. Under surveillance procedure, house to house visits are carried out by the house visitors in search of fever cases and on detection blood slides of the patients are collected and a single dose presumptive treatment (4 aminoquinolene tablets) are given to each patient. The blood slides are examined at the Suman Hospital, Narendra Nagar. Every positive case is given radical treatment for 5 days.

Prevention of Food Adulteration—The districts medical officer of health is the licensing authority under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, and sanitary inspectors act as food inspectors. The following statement gives the number of samples collected, and of those found adulterated. in years 1963 to 1967 :

Year	Number of samples collected	Number of cases of adulteration
1963	140	25
1964	155	37
1965	130	30
1966	162	27
1967	129	37

Family Planning

Government being fully alive to the high rate of increase in population established an urban family planning clinic at Narendra Nagar in 1964 and subsequently 9 others at Muni-ki-Reti, Hindolkhal, Kirti Nagar, Jakholi, Pilkhi, Pratapnagar, Chamba, Tehri and Thatyuar. Each centre has an extension educator, a family planning health assistant and family welfare workers. Vasectomy operations are being carried out at the primary health centres, and the Suman hospital, Narendra Nagar also. The medical and health staff performed the following number of vasectomy and others operations in the district in the years mentioned below :

Year	Number of vasectomy operations performed	Number of other operations	Total
1965-66	805	86	891
1966-67	772	62	834
1967-68 (up to January 31, 1968)	676	80	756

Eye Relief Camps

Since 1951-52 the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh has been organising eye relief camps in the district, where operations were performed and treatment given to the eye-patients. Cataract and trachoma are the common diseases. Every year two to three such camps were held. In 1965-66, however, 5 camps were held to meet the increased demand. These camps are well equipped for indoor and outdoor treatment of diseases of the eye. The community development department arranged to meet a part of the incidental expenditure of the camps as well as of the honorarium to the eye-surgeon. The number of patients treated in these camps is given below :

Year	Number of outdoor patients	Number of indoor patients
1951-52	2,502	3,410
1952-53	1,336	1,852
1953-54	2,492	3,495
1954-55	2,812	2,756
1955-56	3,100	3,292
1956-57	957	1,441
1957-58	1,219	2,037
1958-59	1,552	3,454
1959-60	2,117	3,415
1960-61	2,572	1,712
1961-62	1,015	924
1962-63	1,480	3,648
1963-64	1,247	1,535
1964-65	1,597	3,973
1965-66	2,410	4,458
1966-67	632	1,449
1967-68	1,714	1,894

A large number of eye operations and refractions were also performed in these camps. The following statement gives the necessary details :

Year	Number of cataract operations	Number of other operations	Number of refractions
1951-52 ..	173	331	Nil
1952-53 ..	141	137	30
1953-54 ..	163	261	75
1954-55 ..	134	253	82
1955-56 ..	201	186	93
1956-57 ..	67	79	65
1957-58 ..	115	97	105
1958-59 ..	195	154	113
1959-60 ..	182	184	164
1960-61 ..	116	98	123
1961-62 ..	100	55	88
1962-63 ..	159	248	176
1963-64 ..	101	41	139
1964-65 ..	203	164	139
1965-66 ..	249	372	Nil
1966-67 ..	86	34	65
1967-68 ..	117	169	68

District Red Cross Society—The Red Cross Society was opened at Narendra Nagar in 1934 and the then ruler of the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state became its first director. It had two branches one helped expectant mothers and the other looked after poor and destitute children. However since the merger of the State in 1949, the society has been affiliated to the U. P. branch of the Red Cross Society and is presided over by the district magistrate, the district medical officer of health being its honorary secretary. The society provides relief to the people in the event of natural calamities occurring in the district.

Herb Development Scheme—The scheme aims at the systematic collection, grading and marketing of medicinal herbs found in abundance in the district. The scheme was introduced in 1963-64 and includes the training of local people in the methods of collecting, grading, storing and marketing of herbs ; their cultivation in and near villages ; and in the analysis of herbs collected from natural sources or raised in villages or in farms in order to ascertain the medicinal contents of the samples. The scheme has been initially introduced in the Chamba area.

Diet and Nutrition

Diet and nutrition surveys have shown that the consumption of cereals is adequate, and comes to about 450 gm. per capita per day. Mainly rice and wheat are consumed, but amongst the poor people consumption of millets, particularly *mandua* (ragi) is considerable. About 26 per cent of the population consumes *mandua*. The coarse grains, *kauni, jhangora* are also consumed. The consumption of pulses is inadequate. *Bhat* (soyabean), *gahat* and *kulthi* are the main pulses, although black gram, Bengal gram and lentils are also consumed, per capita consumption per day ranges rfom 30 gm. to 45 gm. against a recommended quantity of 85 gm. Similarly per capita consumption of green leafy vegetables varies from 40 gm. to 110 gm. per day as against 114 gm. required normally. The green leafy vegetables that are available in the district are spinach, amaranth (*chuwa*), *lahi* (mustard leaves), and *ugal* (buckwheat). On the other hand, 20 gm. to 60 gm. of non-leafy vegetables are consumed per head per day which include pumpkin, gourd, carrot, cauliflower, tomato, cabbage, turnip and peas. About 20 gm. to 60 gm. of root vegetables (potatoes, *gaderi, tarud,* radish, onion, etc.) are also consumed, against the recommended quantity of 85 gm.

Fruit of different varieties are grown in the district but their consumption varies from 7 gm. to 20 gm. per head per day, the recommended quantity being 85 gm. Apricot, peach, pear, plum, straw-berry, pomegranate, etc., are consumed.

Mustard oil is the prevalent cooking medium, though ghee is also used. The per capita consumption of the oil and ghee per day is 5 gm. and 8 gm. respectively. About 100 gm. of milk and its products are consumed per head per day, against the recommended quantity of 285 gm. Only 20 gm. of sugar and jaggery are consumed per head per day, which is less than the required quantity. The consumption of meat and eggs is negligible, being 2 gm. and 9 gm. per head per day respectively.

Generally the diets are adequate or marginal in calories. The supply of total protein is adequate, but that of the animal protein inadequate. The diet is also deficient in calcium—an essential mineral, vitamin A, riboflavin and ascorbic acid (vitamin C).

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Labour Welfare

The district of Tehri Garhwal falls in the Meerut region of the State labour commissioner's organisation. The regional office is under the charge of a regional assistant labour commissioner who is assisted by a regional conciliation officer, 2 additional regional conciliation officers, an assistant welfare officer, 3 inspectors of factories (with headquarters at Meerut), and 19 labour inspectors posted at regional headquarters and in important industrial towns in the region. The administration of labour laws in the district is the responsibility of the labour inspector, Hardwar (district Saharanpur). He deals with industrial relations, arbitration (between employers and employees), trade unions, social security and welfare measures for the working class. He also implements the various labour laws and in cases of contravention of the laws, he launches prosecutions.

Labour Acts (relating to various aspects of labour welfare) which are in operation in the district are :—

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923—This Act lays down that an employer is liable to pay compensation if personal injury is caused to a worker arising out of and in the course of employment or if the worker contacts any disease mentioned in the Act. The deputy commissioner, Tehri Garhwal is the ex officio commissioner under the Act for determining the amount of compensation that is payable to the injured or diseased persons. The number of cases in which compensation was granted during the last four years and the amount of compensation paid is given as follows :

Year	Permanent number of cases	Disablement Compensation paid (in rupees)	Fatal cases number	Compensation paid (in rupees)
1965	2	7,840	3	11,100
1966	Nil	..	5	15,000
1967	Nil	..	7	35,600
1968	1	2,520	2	10,600

The Indian Boilers Act, 1923—The Act makes provision for the registration and inspection of boilers and prohibits the use of unregistered and uncertified boilers. There is one boiler in the district installed at Narendra Nagar.

The Indian Trade Union Act, 1926—The Act provides for the registration of trade unions and empowers the trade Union registrar, posted at Kanpur, to inspect the working of trade unions, to call for returns and to consider applications for registration or cancellation of the unions. There are 2 trade unions in the district, comprising workers in the motor transport industry. The following statement provides some relevant details.

	Name	Year of registration	Membership (in 1967)
1.	Tehri Garhwal Motor Mazdoor Sangh, Muni-ki-Reti ..	1950	430
2.	Tehri Garhwal Uttar Kashi Motar Operators Union, Rishikesh	1966	35

The Employment of Children Act, 1938—This Act prohibits the employing of children below 15 years of age in transport and industries.

The Payment of Wages Act, 1936—This deals with the payment of wages to persons employed in factories and other establishments who earn below Rs 400 a month and fixes a time limit for the payment of wages (from which no unauthorised deductions can be made).

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948—This is a Central Act, which covers the agricultural and industrial sectors. The Act provides a minimum wage of Rs 26 per month or a rupee a day for an adult, and Rs 16.25 per month or 62 paise a day for a child. The working hours have been laid down. There is provision for a weekly holiday. The employees of the local bodies are also covered under the Act. However, no contravention of the Act has been reported to the labour inspector.

Old-age Pensions

There were as many as 23,460 persons in 1961 belonging to the age group 60 and above in the rural areas of the district. The number of women in this group was 13,049.

The old-age pension scheme, which came into force from December 1, 1957 regulates the provision of a pension of Rs 20 per month to old and destitute persons of 65 years of age and over without any means of subsistence and having no relatives bound by custom or usage to support them. The scheme is administered by the labour commissioner, Kanpur. Verifications of age and other facts relating to the applicant for pension is done by the district authorities. The number of beneficiaries receiving such

pensions under the scheme in the district from 1957 to December 31, 1967, was 109, of which 75 were women. The tahsilwise break-up was as follows :

Tahsil	No. of beneficiaries		Total
	Men	Women	
Devaprayag	12	25	37
Pratapnagar	12	20	32
Tehri	10	30	40

Prohibition

The district of Tehri Garhwal is not a dry area. However, steps have been taken to discourage indulgence in liquor and other intoxicants. A district temperance society consisting of officials and influential non-officials was formed on November 26, 1957, the executive committee and other sub-committees being formed on December 12, 1957. A *pracharak* (publicity assistant) of the society and a worker of the Sarvodaya movement carry out publicity work in the district. Publicity is done through meetings, cinema projectors, short plays, posters, and leaflets which are distributed freely.

The quota system for the supply of liquor, under which excise licensees can obtain for sale only a fixed quota of intoxicants, is applicable in the district. There are 5 shops for selling country liquor in the district. They are located at Tehri, Narendra Nagar, Magra, Khainupani and Khaudgi. There is no liquor shop near the places of worship. The sale of liquor is confined to 12 hours each day, between 10 A.M. to 10 P. M. The quantity sold to an individual is also restricted. The shops are closed on every Thursday and on Holi, Diwali, Independence Day (August 15), October 2 (the birth day of Mahatma Gandhi), and January 30 (the day of Mahatma Gandhi's martyrdom).

Advancement of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes

The work of the amelioration of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes was taken up in the district in an organised manner in 1954-55. A district Harijan welfare officer (later designated as Harijan and social welfare officer) was appointed in 1957, and posted at Narendra Nagar. He is assisted by two Harijan welfare supervisors, besides other staff.

There were as many as 47,117 Scheduled Castes persons in the district in 1961 of whom 24,127 were women. The Scheduled Castes population formed 13.5 per cent of the total population and the largest number of them reside in tahsil Devaprayag (19,333 in 1961). The corresponding

figures for tahsils Pratapnagar and Tehri being 14,062 and 13,722 respectively. The Harijan social welfare officer enforces the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (Act XXII of 1955). He is under the administrative control of the district planning officer, as a part of the co-ordinated planning organization.

The facilities made available by the State government to the members of these groups in the district are the relaxation of the time and upper age limit for admission to certain educational institutions, free tuition fee, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for the purchase of books and stationery. Two hostels (for Scheduled Castes students) were constructed, at a cost of Rs 20,000 to the State government one each at Gazza and Tehri. Each hostel can accommodate about 20 students. The scholarships awarded by government to students studying in the high schools in 1967-68 are detailed below :

Communities	Number of scholarships	Value (in rupees)
Scheduled Castes	470	49,800
Other Backward Classes	68	6,204
Momin and Ansar	18	2,016

Festivals and community dinners are arranged annually in the different development blocks and at Tehri and Narendra Nagar.

Members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes are being encouraged to augment their earnings by taking increasingly to such cottage industries as spinning and weaving, sewing, shoe-making, etc. They are given training at the various production-cum-training centres in the district. In order to improve their economic condition the State government advanced money to members of the backward communities in the Second and Third Five-year Plan periods, for investment in agriculture and industries. The agriculturists belonging to the Other Backward Classes received an amount of Rs 5,383 in the Second Five-year Plan period. The Scheduled Castes (187 families) received a sum of Rs 69,920 in the Second Plan for investment in agriculture and 190 such families received an amount of Rs 62,000 in the Third Plan for investment in cottage and village industries. Those members of Other Backward Classes engaged in cottage and village industries received financial aid from the government as detailed below :

Plan	Number of families who received the aid	Total aid (in rupees)
Second FiveYear Plan	83	21,800
Third Five-Year Plan	174	47,275

The government has also constructed 124 *diggis* (wells) at a cost of Rs 97,341 and 130 residential quarters at a cost of Rs 9,43,000 in the last ten years (1957 to 1967), for members of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes.

District Home for Women

A district home for women was established at Tehri in March, 1958. It is under the charge of an assistant Adhikshika. The institution provides shelter for destitute women. They are allowed to stay for three months and those who wish to continue to stay for a longer period are shifted to the Mahila Uddoar Grih, Dehra Dun. An amount of about Rs 6,000 is spent annually on this scheme.

Charitable Endowments

Hindu Trusts

Temples in this region had been maintained since long from of the funds earmarked out of land revenue. These were termed at *gunth*. They signified assignments of land revenue made for the maintenance of the temples of this region. Even the Gurkha rulers from Nepal continued this custom. The temple priests, at times felt that they had proprietory rights in the *gunth villages*. However this right always vested in the ruler.

After the creation of the Uttar Kashi district in 1960, efforts were made to centralise the management of all the temple trusts existing in the two districts of Tehri Garhwal and Uttar Kashi. Consequently, on January 22, 1965, an agreement was arrived at between the ex-ruler of the Tehri Garhwal state and the governor of Uttar Pradesh, according to which a board of management for these temples was constituted, which are situated within the area covered by the erstwhile Tehri Garhwal state and used to receive assistance, directly or indirectly, in cash or kind, from that state prior to its merger. The board consists of seven members including the district magistrates of the Tehri Garhwal and Uttar Kashi districts and the commissioner of the Division who also acts as chairman of the board. The remaining four members are non-officials.

Another trust, the Divine Life Trust, was established at Sivanandanagar in 1939 by Swami Sivananda. The Divine Life Trust society manages this trust. It maintains a hospital and a dispensary at Sivanandanagar. The society also provides free meals to the destitute at its Annakshetra, scholarships to poor students, and facilities for training to those interested in yoga. A sum of about Rs 1.70,000 having been spent in 1967, on these items.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Since the merger of the Tehri Garhwal state in U. P. in 1949, four general elections have been held in the district on the basis of adult suffrage in 1952, 1957, 1962 and 1967, when the electors in the district sent up their representatives to the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and the Vidhan Sabha (State Legislative Assembly).

Representation of District in Legislatures

Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly)

In the general elections of 1952, the area covered by the present district had formed part of the two single-member Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Devaprayag and Tehri (South)-cum-Pratapnagar. There were 8 contestants for these two seats. The total number of electors was 1,54,500. The member of votes actually cast was 54,823 of which 680 were declared invalid.

In the general elections of 1957 also, the area of the present district was included in the two single-member Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Devaprayag and Tehri. The total number of electors was 1,77,635. As there was only one candidate for each of the two seats, no polling was actually held and both were declared elected unopposed.

In the general elections of 1962, there were 9 contestants for these two seats. The total number of electors was 1,83,358. The number of votes actually cast was 46,617 of which 2,124 were declared invalid.

In the general elections of 1967,there were 10 contestants for the same two seats. The total number of electors was 1,96,672. The number of votes actually cast was 70,058 of which 5,082 were declared invalid.

The following statement shows the number of seats allotted to the district, number of contentants of various recognised political parties, seats won by them and the numbers and percentages of valid votes polled in favour of the candidates belonging to each party in these four general elections :

General election	No. of seats allotted	Details of election	Parties						
			Congress	Jan Sangh	P.S.P.	Socialist	S.S.P.	Communist	Independents
1952 ..	2	Contestants	2	..	..	1	..	..	5
		Seats won	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

General election	No. of seats allotted	Details of election	Parties: Congress	Jan Sangh	P.S.P.	Socialist	S.S.P.	Communist	Independents
1952 ..		Valid votes polled	16,745	..	..	748	..	..	36,650
		Percentage of total valid votes	31.0	..	..	1.15	..	..	67.85
1957 ..	2	Contestants	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Seats won	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Valid Votes polled	Elected unopposed						
		Percentage of total valid votes							
1962 ..	2	Contestants	2	2	2	..	..	1	2
		Seats won.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Valid votes polled	26,788	2,974	4,215	..	..	4,287	6,229
		Percentage of total valid votes	60.6	6.5	9.3	..	..	9.5	14.1
1967 ..	2	Contestants	2	2	..	..	1	1	4
		Seats won	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
		Valid votes polled	22,018	5,521	..	..	1,065	14,332	22,040
		Percentage of total valid votes	34·0	8·5	..	..	1	22.0	34.0

Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

constituency for the purpose of elections or nominations to the Vidhan Parishad but formed part of the Uttarakhand-cum-Kumaon Graduates', the Uttarakhand-cum-Kumaon-cum-Bijnor Local Authorities', and the Uttarakhand-cum-Kumaon Teachers' constituencies. So far, none from this district has been elected or nominated to the Vidhan Parishad.

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

In 1952, the area now comprising the present district was included in the single-member constituency of Garhwal District (West)-cum-Tehri-Garhwal District-cum-Bijnor District (North) for elections to the Lok Sabha. There were 3 contestants for the seat. The total number of electors for the whole constituency was 3,73,418. The total number of valid votes polled was 1,35,092.

In the general elections of 1957, the area of the present district fell within the single-member constituency of Tehri-Garhwal. There were three contestants for the seat. The number of electors in the constituency was 3,95,937. The total number of votes polled came to 1,40,335 of which only 22 were declared invalid.

In 1962, no polling actually took place in this constituency as there was only one candidate and he was declared elected unopposed.

In 1967, there were 5 contestants for this seat. The total number of electors was 4,62,166. The total number of votes polled came to 1,71,159 of which 9,063 were declared invalid.

The statement that follows gives the number of contestants belonging to various recognised political parties, the number of seats won by such parties and the numbers and percentages of valid votes polled by them in these four general elections :

General election	Seats	Details of election	Parties				Independents
			Congress	Jan Sangh	Kisan Mazdoor Praja	Communist	
1952 ..	1	Contestants ..	1	..	1	..	1
		Seats won	..	..	..	..	1
		Valid votes polled ..	54,829	..	11,452	..	68,811
		Percentage of valid votes	40.6	..	8.5	..	50.9

General election	Seats	Details of election	Parties				Independents
			Congress	Jan-Sangh	Kisan Mazdoor Praja	Communist	
1957 ..	1	Contestants ..	1	1	..	..	1
		Seats won	1	..	..	..	..
		Valid votes polled ..	1,10,687	11,429	..	..	18,197
		Percentage of valid votes	78.9	8.2	..	..	12.9
1962 ..	1	Contestants	1	..	..	..	..
		Seats won	1	..	..	..	..
		Valid votes polled ..	Election unopposed				
		Percentage of valid votes					
1967 ..	1	Contestants	1	1	..	1	2
		Seats won	1	..	..	..	..
		Valid votes polled ..	75,781	17,654	..	34,887	33,774
		Percentage of valid votes	46.8	10.8	..	21.5	20.9

Political Parties

No person belonging to this district was nominated or elected to the Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1967.

Political Parties

The political parties active in the district function on an all-India basis, none being of only local standing. The numerical strength of their members varies from time to time. The Congress is the only party which contested all the four general elections. The Jan Sangh contested the elections in 1957, 1962 and 1967 ; the Communist Party in 1962 and 1967 ; the Praja Socialist Party in 1962 ; the Socialist Party in 1952 ; and the Sanyukt Socialist Party in 1967. The Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party had participated in the elections of 1952 only.

Newspapers and Periodicals

Muni-ki-Reti, a small town in the district on the road from Tehri to Rishikesh, is famous for a number of religious and spiritual organisations. The Divine Life Society, founded by late Swami Sivanand, has its office at Muni-ki-Reti and brings out a number of Hindi and English periodicals that contain articles mainly on religion, philosophy, health, etc. These are the *Yog Vedanta*, a Hindi monthly started in 1951 ; the *Wisdom Light*,

an English monthly started in 1949; the *Health and Long Life*, started in 1951; and the *Branch Gazette*, started in 1952. In 1965, these periodicals had a circulation of 1,200; 3,000; 1,200; and 2,000, respectively.

The *Uttarakhand*, a Hindi weekly started in 1955, and the *Dainik Garhwal*, a Hindi daily started in 1966, are also published from Muni-ki-Reti. These give local news of this region and contain articles on national and international matters of topical interest.

Other Newspapers and Periodicals

Some of the English dailies which are read by the people of the district are the *National Herald, The Pioneer, The Times of India, The Indian Express, The Statesman* and *The Hindustan Times*. The English weeklies usually read are *Blitz* and *The Illustrated Weekly of India*. The English fortnightlies *Caravan* and *Filmfare* and the English monthlies *Mirror, Reader's Digest* and *Trend* also have readers in the district.

The Hindi dailies generally read by the people of the district are *Hindustan, Nav Bharat Times* and *Navajiwan* which are all published outside this district. The popular Hindi periodical magazines are the *Dharmyug, Saptahik Hindustan, Sarita, Navneet, Niharika, Sarika, Kadambini, Maya, Manohar Kahaniyan, Chandamama, Nandan, Parag, Raja Bhaiya*, etc.

Voluntary Social Service Organisation

In the past, the joint family and caste systems were institutions that provided security and rendered considerable social service. The head of a joint family looked after the needs of all the individual members of the family and there was little need for assistance from outside. Next to the family, the caste and the sub-caste were the larger units and members of a caste or sub-caste were like members of a corporate body. The establishment of British rule in the country gave rise to social cultural, educational and psychological forces that resulted in the weakening of the age-old ties of social cohesion and tended to make the people highly individualistic. The establishment of institutions like schools, orphanages, hopitals, etc., introduced into the country modern ideas about the organisation of social service institutions.

Prior to the merger of Tehri Garhwal state in U. P. in 1949, the voluntary social service organisations depended almost entirely on the philanthropy of individuals and on the patronage of the then rulers. After the merger, a social welfare officer was posted here in 1955-56 and, in 1957-58, another post of Harijan welfare officer was created for this district. These two posts were amalgamated into one and the incumbent was designated district Harijan and social welfare officer in 1961. Efforts have been made by the government to render financial and other help to the voluntary organisations and also to guide their activities and to supervise their working through the Harijan and social welfare officer. He

co-ordinates the activities of government welfare agencies and those of voluntary organisations. He is directly responsible for the efficient running of the government welfare bodies in the district and takes steps for the implementation of welfare schemes initiated by the government. A brief account of the important voluntary social service organisations functioning in the district is given below.

The Indumati Andh Shishu Sharnalaya Society, founded in 1961 by Rajmata Kamlendumati Sah in memory of Maharani Indumati Sah of the Tehri Garhwal state, runs a school for blind children at Tehri. A sum of Rs 75,000 was donated by the founder for this institution. It has its own building erected at a cost of Rs 1,50,000 and is the only school for the blind in Garhwal region. The school has a hostel attached to it. Free education, board, lodging, clothing, etc., are provided at this school. It can accommodate 25 students at a time but there were only 16 inmates in 1966-67. Education imparted at the school is up to junior high school standard Training in spinning and cane-work is also given to the students. The total expenditure of the institution in the year 1966-67 amounted to Rs 31,618. A sum of Rs 3,450 was given to the institution as grants-in-aid by the social wlfare department of the Government of India and a sum of Rs 1,500 by the State Social Welfare Board.

A branch of the Indian Red Cross Society was opened at Tehri in 1935 and the then ruler of the state became its first director. Its activities are generally directed into two channels. One of its sections takes up child welfare work like distribution of milk to children and the other gives free medicines, tonics and milk to deserving expectant mothers. Since 1950, the district medical officer of health is its honorary secretary and the district magistrate its president. The society also provides relief in times of droughts, floods and other natural calamities. It is affiliated to the U. P. Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society. Articles worth Rs 2,000 were distributed free by the society in 1967 in this district.

The district branch of the Bharat Sewak Samaj was established at Tehri in 1960. The main function of this institution is to provide relief and assistance to the people affected by natural calamities like droughts, hailstorms and floods.

The Harijan Sewak Sangh at Tehri had originated as the Harijan Sahayak Samiti in 1950. This institution concerns itself primarily with the removal of untouchability and promotion of the general welfare of the members of the Scheduled Castes in the district. It also maintains the Thakkar Bapa Hostel for students at Tehri. Poor students are provided with free lodging and other facilities in this hostel which had 102 inmates in 1966-67. The expenditure on this hostel is met from grants-in-aid made by the State Government and from the Gandhi Memorial Fund. The Harijan Sewak Sangh organises dramas, features and signing

parties to impress upon the people the evils of untouchability. In 1956 and 1957 campaigns were organised by this Sangh to obtain entry of the Harijans into the temples at Burha Kedar, Yamunotri and Gangotri. In 1965-66, it constructed at Tehri 15 public lavatories that do not need the services of any sweeper.

It also provides some financial assistance of local Scheduled Castes students undergoing training in carpentry, tailoring, leather-work, etc., at the Harijan Udyogshala at Delhi and at other places in and outside the district.

The Divine Life Society was founded in 1936 by Swami Sivanand at Sivanandanagar near Muni-ki-Reti. The main aims of this Society are to disseminate spiritual knowledge, to establish and run educational institutions, to render financial and other help to orphans and destitutes and to provide medical facilities for the sick. Accordingly the Society publishes books, pamphlets and magazines dealing with oriental and accidental philosophy and spiritualism, establishes centres for the moral, spiritual and cultural uplift of mankind and runs schools and charitable hospitals. The Society also renders medical and financial aid to the lepers who live around Muni-ki-Reti. The main sources of income of this Society are the sale proceeds of its publications and Ayurvedic medicines, manufactured in its own pharmacy, public donations and grants-in-aid from the government. The total income of this Society in 1966 amounted to a sum of Rs 9,54,149 and the expenditure to Rs 8,40,633. Of this amount, a sum of Rs 26,631 was spent on the maintenance of its charitable hospital, a sum of Rs 4,591 for providing relief to the lepers, a sum of Rs 1,08,960 on the running of free kitchens for the poor and a sum of Rs 1,97,645 on the publication of books, magazines and other literature.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST*

Chamba (tahsil Tehri)

The village of Chamba, also known as Chham or Chama, lies in Lat. 30° 21′ N. and Long. 78° 24′ E., at an altitude of 1661 m. on the ridge extending south-eastward from the Sirkanda peak to Byansghat. The road running from Rishikesh to Uttar Kashi, *via* Nagani and Tehri passes through this village. A bridle road from the place, runs northward to Kandia. The place is about 19 km. from Tehri (in the north east) and 46 km. from Narendra Nagar. The village has a population of 202 and an area of 158 acres (63.94 hectares).

It is the headquarters of a development block and possesses a rest-house of the forest department, a higher secondary school built to Commemorate Sri Deo Suman, who was born in the neighbouring village of Jaula, took an active part in the freedom struggle of 1942 against the then raja of the state and died in 1944. A government Sanskrit *pathshala* ; a wool spinning and weaving training centre, an agricultural seed store, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital are also located here. A platform has been erected here to perpetuate the memory of local soldiers who died in the First World War of 1914. A fair is held nearby Badshahithal in April each year. Recently, efforts have been made to grow some medicinal herbs and plants at this place. The place has a cool salubrious climate throughout the year and commands a panoramic view of the snow-clad ranges of the Himalayas after the monsoon season.

Chandrabadni (tahsil Devaprayag)

The Chandrabadni a mountain, (2,277 m. above sea-level), lying in Lat. 30° 18′ N. and Long. 78° 57′ E., on the border of tahsil Devaprayag and Pratapnagar is well known for the temple of Chandrabadni Devi which lies at the top of the mountain about 10 km. north of Kandi Khal (a place on the Devaprayag—Kirti Nagar metalled road), 22 km. from Devaprayag and 109 km. from Narendra Nagar. It is said that when sati, the wife of Siva, gave up her life in the *yajna* started by her father and Siva was carrying her body to Kailash, her torso fell here. There are some old statues and lots of iron *trishuls* (tridents) outside the temple. Fairs are held here on the 8th day of the bright half of the month of Chaitra and

*Figures pertaining to population and area relate to 1961 unless otherwise indicated.

Aswina when male buffaloes and goats are offered for sacrifice. It commands a beautiful view of the Sirkanda, Kedarnath and Badrinath peaks. Chandrabadni temple is one of the 4 Siddhapeeths said to have been established in this region by Jagadguru Shankaracharya in the 9th century. The temple here is very small and contains a Shri-yantra carved out on a flat stone instead of any idol. Traditionally, a cloth canopy is tied to the ceiling over this Shri-yantra once a year and the Brahmana priest doing it has to do it blind-folded.

Devaprayag (tahsil Devaprayag)

Situated at the confluence of the Alaknanda and the Bhagirathi, the town of Devaprayag lies in Lat. 30° 9′ N. and Long. 78° 36′ E., at an altitude of 472 m. on the metalled road running from Rishikesh to Badrinath and about 87 km. from Narendra Nagar. Near the town there are two suspension bridges, one each on the Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda. The metalled road to Badrinath crosses the former by a third bridge. The town is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name and is one of the five sacred *prayags* (confluences) of the Alaknanda. Tradition has it that the town is named after Deosharma, a sage, who led a life of penance here and succeeded in having a glimpse of God.

The town has a population of 1,456 and an area of 2.07 sq. km. and stands about 30 m. above the water's edge on the scarped side of a mountain which rises behind it to a height of more than 240 m. The great temple of Raghunathji is claimed to have been erected some ten thousand years ago and is built of massive uncemented stones. It stands upon a terrace in the upper part of the town and consists of an irregular pyramid capped by a white cupola with a golden ball and spire. Religious ablutions take place at 2 basins excavated in the rock at the junction of the holy streams — on the Bhagirathi known as the Brahm Kund and the other on the Alaknanda called the Vasisht Kund. The temple, along with the other buildings of the town, was shattered by an earthquake in 1803 but the damage was subsequently repaired through the munificence of Daulat Rao Sindhia. The temple is visited by a large number of pilgrims every year.

The town is the seat of the *pandas* of the Badrinath Dham and possesses a post and telegraph office, a public call office, a police out-post, a dak bungalow of the public works department and a hospital.

Besides the temple of Raghunathji, there are in the town Baital Kund, Brahm Kund, Surya Kund and Vasisht Kund ; the Indradyumna Tirth, Pushyamal Tirth, Varah Tirth and Vilva Tirth ; Pushpavatika ; Baitalshila and Varahishila ; the shrines of Bhairava, Bhushandi, Durga and Vishveshvara ; and a temple dedicated to Bharata. A bath at Baitalshila is claimed to cure leprosy.

Nearby is the Dasharathachal peak, containing a rock, known as Dashrathshila, on which Raja Dasharath is said to have led a life of penance. A small stream, the Shanta running down from the Dasharathachal, is named after Shanta, the daughter of Raja Dasharath and is considered to be sacred.

Dhanolti (tahsil Tehri)

The village of Dhanolti, also called Dhanaulti lies on the ridge extending westward from the Sirkanda peak in Lat. 30°25′ N. and Long. 78°15′ E., at an altitude of about 2,300 m. and is situated at a distance of about 40 km. from Mussoorie, 41 km. from Tehri and 67 km. from Narendra Nagar. The road running from Mussoorie to Tehri passes through it. The village is surrounded by deodar forests. It is one of the picnic spots in the district and commands a picturesque view of the eternal snows. It is the headquarters of a *peshkar* (*naib* tahsildar) and therefore known as a *peshkari*. It has an area of 23 acres (9.30 hectares). The place is deserted in the winters on account of excessive snowfall. About 6 km. north-west of the village lies Burans Khanda which owes its name to the beautiful flowers of *burans* (rhododendrons) that bloom in abundance there.

The village is the headquarters of a development block. There are in the village a dak bungalow of the forest department and or two guest houses. One of these guest houses is used now as the office of the *naib* tahsildar and the other as the office of the panchayat inspector. It has also a police out-post, a seed-farm and several apple orchards. Dhanolti is noted for its healthy climate and a number of tourists track down to this place during the summer and early autumn seasons from Mussoorie.

Ghansali (tahsil Pratapnagar)

The village of Ghansali in Lat. 30°26′ N. and Long. 78°39′ E., on the right of the Bhillangana at an altitude of about 900 m. and is connected by an unmetalled road with Tehri to the west and with Jakholi to the east. A bridle-road leads from this place north-eastward to Ghuttu, Panwali Kantha and Trijugi Narain (in district Chamoli). The village is about 34 km. from Tehri and 99 km. from Narendra Nagar and has an area of 13 acres (5.26 hectares). The headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat and of the Bhillangana development block are located here besides a branch post-office, a day bungalow, the range office of the forest department and a junior Basic school.

Hindola Khal (tahsil Devaprayag)

Hindola Khal lies in Lat. 30°17′ N. and Long. 78°41′ E., at an altitude of 1,200 m. about 11 km. from Devaprayag and 98 km. from Narendra Nagar. A bridle-road from Devaprayag to Tehri runs through

this village. The headquarters of the Devaprayag development block is located here besides a junior high school, a veterinary hospital and an agricultural seed store.

Jakholi (tahsil Devaprayag)

The village of Jakholi lies in Lat. 30°21′ N. and Long. 78°56′ E., at an altitude of about 1,127 m. on the northern slope of the Keelbonga peak. It is about 90 km. from Devaprayag and 176 km. from Narendra Nagar. The place is connected by unmetalled roads with Ghansali and Tehri to the west and with Tilwara to the south-east. A bridle-road from the village goes north-east to Bhiri. It has a population of 207 and an area of about 96 acres (38.85 hectares). The headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat and of a development block and an Ayurvedic dispensary, a primary health centre, a maternity centre, veterinary hospital and an agricultural seed store are located in this village.

Kempti Falls (tahsil Tehri)

The Rignal Gad, a small stream running northwards from a mountain on the southern border of tahsil Tehri ends in a beautiful waterfall near village Kemti in Lat. 30° 29′ N. and Long. 78° 31′ E., at an altitude of about 1,500 m. and at a distance of about 8 km. from Mussoorie on the Mussoorie-Chakrata road. It is also connected by an unmetalled road with Tehri and Narendra Nagar *via* Chamba and lies about 81 km. west of Tehri and 107 km. north-west of Narendra Nagar. In 1902, a scheme was prepared by the British to generate electricity from the waterfall but negotiations with the then raja of the Tehri state fell through. It is situated in picturesque natural surroundings and is visited by a large number of sight-seers every year. Most of the tourists visiting Mussoorie invariably make a trip to the fall for sight-seeing, picnic and relaxation. Wild goats and wild fowls in the area, provide an added attraction to visitors fond of shikar.

Kirti Nagar (tahsil Devaprayag)

Kirti Nagar, the headquarters of the subdivision of the same name, lies in Lat. 30°13′ N. and Long. 78°45′ E., about 600 m. above sea-level on the road running from Rishikesh to Badrinath and is about 115 km. from Narendra Nagar, the district headquarters and 29 km. from Devaprayag. This is last bus station, in the district on the right bank of the Alaknanda river. From this place, the route to Badrinath lies across the Alaknanda over a massive steel-girder bridge and passes through Srinagar in district Garhwal. A motor road connects the place with Tehri. Kirti Nagar is named after Raja Kirti Sah who founded it in 1896 when the town of Srinagar was washed away by floods in the Alaknanda. The people of Srinagar constructed their houses and shops and settled here for some time but most of them returned to dwell in the reconstructed township of Srinagar. Kirti Nagar has a population of 293 and an area of 5 acres (2.02 hectares).

The town is the headquarters of a development block of the same name. It has a veterinary hospital, a primary health centre, an agricultural seed store, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a maternity centre, a rest-house a post-office, a junior Basic school, a junior high school and two dharmsalas. It also possesses the offices of the subdivisional officer, district co-operative bank and public works department. An ancient temple of Siva at Dudhprayag stands here at the confluence of the Dudh Gad and the Alaknanda.

The town is administered by a town-area committee and has been divided into 2 wards. It receives its supply of electricity from Pauri (in district Garhwal) and of water from a reservoir at Dudhprayag. There is a market on the main road leading to Badrinath to cater to the daily needs of the people.

Kujapuri (tahsil Devaprayag)

Kujapuri is the name given to a peak having an altitude of about 1,676 m. It lies in Lat. 30°11′N. and Long. 78°20′ E., about 93 km. from Devaprayag and 7 km. from Narendra Nagar. It commands a beautiful view of the snow-ranges of the Himalayas and of the valley of the Bhagirathi. It contains an old temple dedicated to the goddess Kujapuri Devi which is visited by a number of people every year. Nearby, in Agarakhal, there is a dak bungalow situated in picturesque surroundings and maitnained by the public works department. Kujapuri is said to be one of the Siddhapeeths established in the region by Jagadguru Shankaracharya and legend has it that the upper-half of the body of Sati, wife of Siva, fell here when Siva was carrying it to Kailash after Sati had flung herself in the *yajna* fires when some derogatory remarks were made about her husband by her father Daksha.

Masar Tal (tahsil Pratapnagar)

Masar Tal is a beautiful snowfed lake at an altitude of about 2,960 m. in Lat. 30°38′ N. and Long. 78°41′ E., about 59 km. from Tehri and 121 km. from Narendra Nagar and is accessible only after the melting of the snow in May. During the remaining part of the year the region is covered with snow. In order to reach this lake from Tehri, a metalled road is available up to Ghonti from where, however, one has to walk about 50 km. through Thati Kathur to the lake. The main lake has a circumference of about 400 m. and near by lies another lake with a circumference of 300 m. The water of the lakes is too cold to permit a bath in it. The exceedingly fast wind which blows here dashes against the surrounding mountains and produces sounds like that of cannon. A large number of herbs of the Ranunculaceae family are found near this lake. A fair is held here on the occasion of Ganga Dasahra in the month of Jyaistha and about 500 persons collect here during the fair.

Mukhem (tahsil Pratapnagar)

Mukhem (Mukhim), the largest village of tahsil Pratapnagar lies in Lat. 30°34′ N. and Long. 78°30′E., at an altitude of about 1,980 m. to the right of the Naguda Gad, a small affluent of the Jalkur river, about 43 km. north of Tehri and 109 km. north-east of Narendra Nagar. A motorable road leads from Tehri to Lambgaon which is connected with Mukhem by a bridle road. The village has a population of 753 and an area of 234 acres (94.696 hectares). It falls in the Pratapnagar development block and is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat circle. The village is known in the neighbouring districts for its temple of Nagraj, which contains an image of Lord Krishna. A large fair is held here in the month of Mangsir (Agrahayana). Tradition has it that there are 7 hidden *sems* (marshes) around the village, which are supposed to be the secret abodes of the sages, saints and Lord Krishna. It is also said that if a person tries to locate these *sems*, he becomes blind. About 5 km. distant from the village there is another temple of Nagraj at a place known as Sem which is well known for the grandeur of its natural beauty. The pilgrims who visit the temple of Nagraj during the fair in the village of Mukhem also visit this temple which stands on a high ridge, commanding a picturesque view of the snow-ranges of the Himalayas and of the valley of the Jalkur. The local legend is that Lord Krishna, in his old age, came to reside at Sem where he killed a demoness.

Muni-ki-Reti (tahsil Devaprayag)

The town of Muni-ki-Reti, also known as Mohan-ki Reti, lies in Lat. 30°7′ N. and Long. 78°18′ E., at an altitude of about 365 m. on the south-western border of the district. Adjoining it on the south is Rishikesh, in district Dehra Dun, with which it is connected by a metalled road. It is also connected by metalled roads with the towns of Narendra Nagar to the north and Devaprayag to the east which are located at distance of about 17 km. and 90 km., respectively from this place. It has a population of 932 and an area of 640 acres (259 hectares).

Muni-ki-Reti is the headquarters of a development block of the same name and is a notified area. It lies on the way to Badrinath and is a picturesque pilgrim centre. It is also the headquarters of the Divine Society and Vedant Forest University founded by Swami Shivanand, a saint of international fame. The Vishwanath temple, the Krishna hall and the Yoga museum in the *ashram* (hermitage) of Swami Shivanand are visited by many. Near by, a temple dedicated to Lakshmana, and the suspension bridge on the Ganga known as Lachhaman Jhula also exist. Lachhaman Jhula area is famous for its mountain scenery. It is said that Lakshmana under took prolonged penance in this *tapobhumi* (land for meditation) and the area is called Tapoban even now. Lakshmana

is said to have constructed a rope-bridge over the Ganga to facilitate movement of pilgrims across that river. The motor road from Rishikesh to Badrinath passes along the right bank of the Ganga through this town.

A dispensary, a dak bungalow, a grain-godown and an agricultural seed store also exist here.

Nag Tibba (tahsil Tehri)

The Nag Tibba (3,027 m. above the sea-level), the principal peak in the western part of the district to the right of the Bhagirathi, lies in Lat. 38°35′ N. and Long. 78°9′ E., in tahsil Tehri about 77 km. from Tehri and 144 km. from Narendra Nagar. A bridle road running northward from Suwakholi, on the Chamba-Mussoorie road leads to the peak. The surrounding tract, covered with forests, is a favourite resort of hunters as it abounds in varieties of game birds and animals. Nearby is a beauty spot known as Nagthat where people from the surrounding areas come to worship a local deity every year.

Narendra Nagar (tahsil Devaprayag)

Narendra Nagar, the headquarters of the district lies in Lat. 30°10′ N. and Long. 78°19′ E., at an altitude of about 1,150 m. on a high ridge descending from the Kujapuri peak. The town is about 520 km. from Lucknow and 87 km. from Devaprayag. The road running from Rishikesh to Uttar Kahsi *via* Tehri passes through this town. It is named after Raja Narendra Sah who founded it in 1919 at a site where, previously, the small village of Odathali existed. The town became inhabited by 1925 and remained the capital of the Tehri Garhwal state till 1949 when that state merged in the Indian Union. It commands a panoramic view of the Dun valley. Mussoorie, Dehra Dun, Hardwar and Rishikesh are visible from here and present a beautiful sight at night when the lights in those towns come into view with festive abundance. The sunset view of the town is claimed to compare favourable even with the sunset scenery in Switzerland. The climate of the town is bracing and it is an ideal health resort, quieter than the other hill stations. The town has a population of 1,632 and an area of 10.36 sq. km. Narendra Nagar receives its supply of electricity from the Pathari Power House at Bahadarabad in Saharanpur district and its water supply from a reservoir, 5 km. distant from the town.

The town has a dispensary, a child welfare and maternity centre, a veterinary hospital and a library known as the Nehru Pustakalaya (started in 1967). It is divided into three wards, the Kinwani, the Bazar, and the Civil and Military Area. On the top of a hill is the raja's palace which is ideally situated and commands a superb view, over-looking the serpentine course of the Ganga on the south-east and the picturesque Dun-valley on the west, with the circling ring of the Siwalik hills demarcating the horizon in its front.

Panwali (tahsil Pratapnagar)

The Panwali *chatti* (a haulting place) lies in Lat. 30° 32′ N. and Long. 78°53′ E., about 136 km. north-east of Narendra Nagar, 70 km. east of Tehri and 43 km. north-east of Ghansali which is connected by a motor road with Rishikesh *via* Narendra Nagar and Tehri. From Ghansali, a bridle-road leads to Panwali *chatti*. It also possesses a dak bungalow of the public works department and 2 dharmsalas of the Kali Kamaliwala Kshetra.

The *chatti* is situated on the water parting ridge, also known as Panwali, which lies between the valleys of the Bhillangana and the Lastar rivers and separates tahsil Pratapnagar from tahsil Devaprayag. It contains two peaks the Panwali Bungyal and the Panwali Kantha, having an altitude of 3,433 m. and 3,660 m., respectively. It lies on the bridle road from Ghansali to Trijuginarain and Kedarnath (both in district Chamoli). The pilgrims who follow the bridle path from Gangotri to Kedarnath also pass through this tract. The place is noted for its beautiful flowers of varied kinds and colours and a multitude of medicinal herbs and magnificent snow view. Like Manjhiran and Harkidun (in district Uttar Kashi) it is a paradise for the shepherds and cowherds. The journey to the place is rugged and difficult but the beauty of the surrounding area compensates the hazards of the journey. It is said that the smell of the flowers here has an intoxicating effect on the passers by. The region looks particularly beautiful by moon light. Due to the high altitude, avalanches are not unknown in this region specially during the Yatra season (from April to June), when on account of sun heat huge masses of snow, rock and ice hurtle down the mountain causing immense havoc.

Pratapnagar (tahsil Pratapnagar)

The village lies in Lat. 30°27′ N. and Long. 78°32′ E., on a ridge about 2,011 m. above sea-level and is situated about 80 km. north-east of Narendra Nagar and 14 km. north of Tehri with which it is connected by a bridle-road. It gives its name to a tahsil, of which the headquarters is located at Tehri. The village is named after Raja Pratap Sah who founded it in 1877 as his summer capital. It is a beautiful place with picturesque surroundings of *banj* and *burans* forests and gives a magnificent view of the snow-ranges of Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri (Jamunotri). The village has a population of 27 and an area of 13 acres (5.26 hectares).

Pratapnagar is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat circle and a development block of the same name. It has a branch post-office. There is an old temple in the village dedicated to Panchnam Deota. It also possesses several old buildings, the chief being a palace and the building of a high court which were built by the old rajas. The latter building is occupied by the office of the block development officer. There are

good apple-orchards here and a number of deodar trees are also found. The old palace building has a very large central hall which has a large one-piece carpet as floor covering and a number of large chandeliers. A well equipped billiard-room also exists in this palace building. The ascent to Pratapnagar from Tehri *via* Madan Negi is very steep but a longer and less steep bridge path also exists *via* Bhaldiyana.

Sahatru Tal (tahsil Pratapnagar)

Sahatru Tal, a cluster of beautiful lakes lies in Lat. 30°43′ N. and Long. 78°49′ E., at an altitude more than 4,400 m. on a waterparting ridge, and is also known as the Sahastra Tal. The ridge forms the northern boundary of the district and separates the valley of the Pilang, in district Uttar Kashi, on the north-west and that of the Bhillangana on the east. It is about 154 km. from Narendra Nagar and 85 km. from Tehri and 70 km. from Ghansali which is connected with Tehri and Narendra Nagar by a motor road. From Ghansali one has to walk on foot to reach the place. The lakes are snow fed and remain covered with snow for the most part of the year and can be visited only after the melting of the snow in May, when the surrounding lands are covered with natural herbs and flowers of varied kinds and colours which grow in abundance. This cluster of lakes abounds in trout.

Sirkanda (tahsil Tehri)

The Sirkanda peak, lying in Lat. 30°23′ N. and Long. 78°21′ E., at an altitude of 2,750 m. in the western part of tahsil Tehri, and is famous for the temple of Surkhanda Devi. It is about 8 km. from Dhanolti on the motor road running from Mussoorie to Chamba and is connected with Narendra Nagar which is about 61 km. and with Tehri which is about 41 km. by motor roads. To reach the temple one has to leave the Mussoorie-Chamba road at Kadu Khal and climb a steep ascent of about 1.5 km. on foot. The legend is that Sati, the wife of Siva, gave up her life in the *yajna* started by her father. Siva passed through this place on his way back to Kailash with the dead body of Sati whose head fell at the spot where the temple of Surkhanda Devi stands. It commands a beautiful view of Dehra Dun, Rishikesh, Chandrabadni, Pratapnagar and Chakrata. Flowers of varied kinds and colours and indigenous herbs grown in abundance here and some of the beautiful birds of the western Himalayas are also found in the neighbourhood. A local fair is held on the occasion of Ganga Dasahra in Jyaistha when hundreds of devout pilgrims visit this place. An old panther is believed to reside permanently in the neighbourhood of the temple and local people believe that goddess Durga herself rides that panther at night. Formerly goats were sacrificed at the alter of the goddess but now the practice has been replaced by offerings of coconut to the deity.

Tehri (tahsil Tehri)

Tehri, the headquarters of a tahsil of the same name and the principal town of the district, lies in Lat. 30°23′ N. and Long. 78°27′ E., at the junction of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana, at an elevation of about 700 m. above the sea-level. It is nearly 65 km. by road from Narendra Nagar. A metalled road runninng north-westward for about 2 km. from the town joins the road running from Rishikesh to Uttar Kashi. It is also approachable by a 65 km. long motor road from Mussoorie. The town is also connected by a 54 km. long bridle road with Devaprayag and is linked with Kirti Nagar by a 56 km. long bus route. The confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana here is considered to be very sacred and is known as Ganeshprayag. The place also finds mention in the *Kedarkhanda* of the *Skanda Purana* as Dhanush Tirth. The word 'Tehri' is said to be derived from the Sanskrit word *trihari* meaning that which gives absolution from three kinds of sin those born of word, deed and thought. Some people called it Tehri because of a bend in the river Bhillangana prior to its junction with the Bhagirathi. Formerly, it was a small village but in 1816 when Raja Sudarshan Sah made it his capital, it grew into a town which remained the capital of the erstwhile Tehri State till 1925 when Raja Narendra Sah shifted the capital to Narendra Nagar. The town has a population of 4,508 and an area of 31.08 sq. km.

There are in the town the temples dedicated to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Bhagirathi, Rangnath, and Sheshashayi. It is also said that Swami Ram Tirth lived here for sometime in a cave near the bank of the Bhillangana and died here. Near Ganeshprayag there was an ancient temple of Ganesa and a rock known as the Ganeshshila but both were washed away by the floods of the Bhagirathi and the Bhillangana in 1937. The temple dedicated to Satyeshwar Nath finds its mention in the *Skanda Purana*. The town is administered as a notified area and has been divided into 3 wards. There are in the town the offices of the sub-divisional officer, tahsildars Pratapnagar and Tehri, irrigation department, subregistrar and public works department. It is the headquarters of the Pratapnagar and Jakhanidhar development blocks. Several district level offices such as the office of the civil and sessions judge, divisional forest officers and the Zila Parishad are also located in this town. Besides, the town possesses a meteorological station, a rest-house of the public works department, 2 hospitals, including one for women, a post and telegraph office, the district jail, a police-station and a clock tower. Among the educational institutions, the chief are the Government Pratap Intermediate College, the Narendra Mahila Vidyalaya and the government normal school. The town has a Sikh *gurudvara* also. Broadly, the town can be said to occupy three distinct levels. At the highest level stands the old palace of the erstwhile rulers. The mid-level is called Chana-ka-Khet and is a stretch of flat land on which are located most of the government offices

and residences and orchards. At the lowest level is the bazar. On a small hillock nearby stands a dilapidated huge building called Purana Durbar.

There are two famous buildings closely—the Sheeshmahal and the Simlasu. Both are located on the plateau overlooking the Bhillangana river. Simlasu is said to be a miniature replica of the former viceregal lodge at Simla and is said to have been constructed by the then raja to accommodate the viceroy who paid a visit to Tehri. Swami Ram Tirth is believed to have taken *jalsamadhi* near this building.

An old theatre-building also exists in a part of the flat land that was used as polo-ground during the time of the erstwhile rajas. The famous literature Radhey Shyam Kathwachak of Bareilly who wrote out the epic Ramayana in plain Hindi and set it to music is said to have directed the staging of a number of his dramas in this theatre-building under the patronage of the then rajas.

Thati Kathur (tahsil Pratapnagar)

The village of Thati Kathur, also known as Budha Kedar, lies in Lat. 30°34′ N. and Long. 78°39′ E., at an altitude of about 1,335 m. near the confluence of the Bal Ganga and the Dharm Ganga. It is situated about 53 km. north-east of Tehri and 118 km. north-east of Narendra Nagar Bridle roads lead from this place to Bhatwari in district Uttar Kashi on the north, Ghonti on the south, and Ghuttu on the east. Bus service is available up to Ghonti from where one has to walk about 35 km. on foot to reach this place. The pilgrims who follow the bridle route from Gangotri to Kedarnath pass through this village. It has a population of 598 and an area of 150 acres (60.703 hectares).

The village falls in the Ghansali development block and is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat circle. It has the ancient temples of Kedareshwar Mahadeo and Rajrajeshwari which are visited by a large number of pilgrims every year during the Yatra season from April to June. It also possesses a school a government Ayurvedic dispensary, a junior high school, a junior Basic school, a dharmsala of Kali Kamaliwala Kshetra and a dak bungalow of the public works department. The beautiful lakes known as Masar Tal and Sahatru Tal are apprachable through this place.

Thature (tahsil Tehri)

The village lies in Lat. 30°28′ N. and Long. 78°15′ E., near the confluence of the Pali Gad and the Aglar to the left of the former and to the right of the latter at an altitude of about 1,200 m. A bridle road running

southward connects it with Sunwakholi on the Tehri-Mussoorie road in district Dehra Dun. It is about 66 km. from Tehri and 99 km. from Narendra Nagar. The village has a population of 107 and an area of 96 acres (38.8498 hectares).

It is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat circle and the Jaunpur development block. It possesses a veterinary hospital, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a junior high school, and an agricultural seed store.



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TABLE I—*Area and Population*, 1961

District and tahsil	Population			
	Square Km.	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
District .. Total	4,519	3,47,736	1,57,909	1,89,827
Rural	N. A.	3,40,140	1,53,063	1,87,077
Urban	43.5	7,596	4,846	2,750
Devaprayag tahsil—				
Total	N. A.	1,52,836	69,795	83,061
Rural	N. A.	1,49,748	67,941	81,807
Urban	12.4	3,088	1,854	1,234
Pratapnagar tahsil—				
Total	N. A.	97,505	41,487	56,018
Rural	N. A.	97,505	41,487	56,018
Urban	..	..	..	..
Tehri tahsil—				
Total	N. A.	97,395	46,627	50,768
Rural	N. A.	92,887	43,635	49,252
Urban	12.0	4,508	2,992	1,516

TABLE II—*Population according to Languages, 1961*

Languages (Mother-tongue)	Persons
1	2
Garhwali	3,35,147
Hindi	10,583
Urdu	368
Nepali	338
Punjabi	333
Kumauni	324
Kangri	253
Gorkhali	53
Gujarati	45
Pashchimi	45
Kanauri	41
Marwari	36
Kashmiri	30
Gujari	26
Bengali	13
Jaunsari	12
Sirmauri	10
Tibetan	10
Jad	9
Bashahri	6
Purnea	6
Tamil	6
Afghani/Kabuli/Pakhto/Pashto/Pathani	5
Bihari	5
Kunkhardong	5
Oriya	5
Awadhi	4
Marathi	3
Bhojpuri	2
Braj Bhasha	2
Purbi	2
English	4
German	1
Telugu	4
Total Population ..	3,47,736

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TABLE III—*Population according to Religion*, 1961

Religion	Population (District total)		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Hinduism	3,45,376	1,56,920	1,88,456
Islam	2,151	874	1,277
Buddhism	25	15	10
Sikhism	94	50	44
Christianity	19	13	6
Jainism	68	34	34
Others	3	3	..
Total ..	3,47,736	1,57,909	1,89,827



TABLE IV (i) —*Rainfall (up to 1965)*

Stations	Years on which data are based		Normal rainfall (in mm) January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Extreme rainfall (in mm) Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours Amount (mm)	Date
Devaprayag	.. 8	a	54.8	40.4	42.5	3.7	23.9	64.0	347·7	163.2	182.9	33.2	11.5	38.8	1,006.6	157.5	1963, Sept. 16
		b	3.4	3.0	3.1	0.9	2.7	4.5	16.3	10·6	7.5	1.7	1.0	1.4	56.1	—	— —
Dhanol'i	.. 8	a	48.2	51.6	56.2	25.7	55.4	139.4	518.2	473.0	301.7	41.9	33.1	27.8	1,772.2	157.5	1963, Sept. 16
		b	4.4	3.3	4.7	3.0	4.0	7.9	20.9	20.6	11.6	3.9	1.4	1.7	87.4	—	— —
Ghuttu ..	.. 8	a	91.2	82.1	109.5	73.2	75.7	417.0	757.1	695.4	427.9	59.8	17.5	42.7	2,849.1	245.2	1962, July 15
		b	5.3	3.7	5.9	5.5	5.2	14.5	24.9	23.3	14.1	2.9	1.3	1.9	108.5	—	... ..
Kirtinagar	... 8	a	68.2	61.0	58.5	21.8	37.0	95.1	417.9	230.5	192.5	32.8	13.9	28·7	1,257.9	144.8	1958, Sept. 27
		b	3.0	3.9	3.4	1.7	2.7	5.7	17.0	12.5	6.5	1.6	1.0	1.5	60.5	—	... ...
Mukhim	.. 10	a	69.3	56.3	73.7	43.6	75.7	151.7	431.9	348·2	351.1	66.4	15.7	42.2	1,625.6	121.3	1963, Sept. 16
		b	4.2	4.2	5.6	4.6	5·4	9.3	19.8	18.4	12.5	3.7	1.1	2.1	90.9	—	— —
Narendra Nagar	... 8	a	69.3	47.1	29.8	5.6	20·1	144.3	808.6	763.3	418.9	54.2	16.2	36.5	2,473.9	243.6	1962. Aug. 28
		b	3.6	2.4	2.3	0.9	2.6	7.4	23.0	22.3	15.3	2.9	0.9	2.0	85.6	..	.. ..
Tehri	... 8	a	56.4	56.7	40.1	28.5	41.6	50.4	244.0	203.6	166.0	28.1	10.6	34.8	960.8	115.6	1963, Sept. 16
		b	4.5	3.5	4.0	3.1	3.5	4.0	13.9	11.7	7.6	2.3	0.7	1.9	60.7	..	.. ..

(*a*) Normal rainfall in mm.

(*b*) Average number of rainy days (day with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

TABLE IV (ii) —*Temperature and Relative Humidity, Tehri*

Month	Temperature (in Degree/ Centrigrade)				Relative humidity (as percentage)	
	Mean daily maximum	Mean daily minimum	Highest ever recorded with date	Lowest ever recorded with date	8.30 A.M.	5.30 P.M.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January ..	19.3	4.5	25.6 1961, January 27	—1.2 1963, January 2	92	55
February ..	22.1	6.4	29.1 1961, February 28	0.2 1964, February 3	83	42
March ..	27.5	10.6	34.9 1964, March 15	4.6 1965, March 3	73	32
April ..	32.3	15.3	39.3 1958, April 24	7.4 1965, April 3	57	28
May ..	36.1	18.7	41.0 1960, May 21	13.1 1964, May 23	46	24
June ..	37.5	22.9	42.3 1958, June 17	12.1 1957, June 24	53	34
July ..	33.4	23.5	39.5 1963, July 5, 6	13.2 1957, July 13	80	61
August ..	32.6	23.6	36.7 1960, August 7	19.8 1965, August 22	85	65
September ..	31.9	21.1	36.3 1963, September 13	14.9 1963, September 27	83	59
October ..	30.4	15.9	34.8 1960, October 2	8.6 1960, October 31	77	47
November ..	25.7	9.3	30.7 1958, November 1	4.1 1961, November 30	81	51
December ..	21.1	4.7	20.6 1964, December 6	—1.5 1961, December 18	92	54
Annual ..	29.2	14.7	— — — —	— — — —	75	46

TABLE V—*Agricultural Statistics*, 1964-65

Type of area	Area (in acres)
1	2
Cultivated	1,98,279
Irrigated	24,296
Unirrigated	1,73,983
Uncultivated	2,43,259
Culturable	8,10,611
Under Forest department	6,90,502
Orchards and groves	61,173
Pastures and grazing grounds	40,785
Other culturable waste	18,151
Double cropped	93,154

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TABLE VI—*Area under Principal Crops*, 1966-67

Crop	Area (in acres)
1	2
Wheat	62,760
Paddy	46,582
Jhangora	44,228
Mandwa	25,205
Oil-seeds	2,235
Maize	1,571

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TABLE VII—*Land Revenue Demand*, 1962—64

Pargana and district	Land Revenue Demand (in rupees)
1	2
Pargana—	
Narendra Nagar	69,030.00
Chandravadni	53,005.37
Pratapnagar	43,970.54
Udaipur	43,822.00
Chilla	43,601.37
Bhardar	39,329.27
Bhilang	35,945.30
Kirtinagar	35,366.73
Jaunpur	31,428.34
District total	3,95,498.92

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TABLE VIII (i-*a*) –*Receipts* (in rupees), *Zila Parishad*

Year	Government grants	Fairs and exhibitions	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5
1960-61	1,50,000	..	468	1,50,468
1961-62	2,28,261	..	8,314	2,36,575
1962-63	2,46,968	..	12,788	2,59,756
1963-64	1,47,178	..	19,596	1,66,774
1964-65	1,62,260	2,098	16,746	1,81,104
1965-66	2,46,436	189	19,756	2,66,381
1966-67	2,06,525	3,987	42,175	2,52,687



TABLE VIII (i-*b*) —*Expenditure* (in rupees), *Zila Parishad*

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and Public Health	Public works	Fairs and exhibitions	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1960-61	19,081	28,435	2,574	45,849	..	..	86,939
1961-62	14,484	1,10,707	5,201	81,270	500	38,000	2,50,162
1962-63	40,920	17,457	1,794	1,31,274	500	3,334	1,95,289
1963-64	40,894	60,159	5,824	1,79,539	1,000	14,885	3,02,301
1964-65	47,842	61,241	5,561	1,89,155	3,512	28,117	3,35,428
1965-66	48,819	..	2,069	1,44,479	..	12,755	2,08,122
1966-67 —	55,275	4,670	1,867	1,12,841	6,653	35,457	2,16,763

TABLE VIII (ii)—*Receipts and Expenditure, Municipal Board, Tehri*

Year	Receipts (in Rs.)				Expenditure (in Rs.)				
	Toll and water taxes	Government grants	Other sources	Total receipts	Sanitation and lighting	General administration and collection of taxes	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1960 61 ..	36,226	10,062	4,963	51,251	17,856	12,782	10,049	3,036	43,723
1961-62 ..	20,287	2,050	10,075	32,412	7,182	6,898	5,946	592	20,618
1962-63 ..	21,694	3,219	6,095	31,008	6,459	7,754	12,042	2,454	28,709
1963-64 ..	54,982	10,150	18,744	83,876	22,485	16,336	32,962	30,406	1,02,189
1964-65 ..	70,824	30,000	24,440	1,25,264	21,823	21,921	35,940	9,375	89,059
1965-66 ..	77,992	..	32,970	1,10,962	31,278	23,665	76,095	20,043	1,51,081
1966-67 ..	77'468	40,000	23,870	1,41,338	33,237	28,421	17,369	25,584	1,04,611
1967-68 ..	68,288	10,000	23,758	1,02,046	33,051	32,770	65,213	7,086	1,38,12[illegible]

TABLE VIII (iii)—*Receipts and Expenditure, Notified Area, Muni-ki-Reti*

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)				Expenditure (in Rupees)				
	Government grants	Taxes, fees, subsidy	Other sources	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1961-62 ..	15,000	9,200	1,546	25,746	6,873	5,411	1,980	[1,149	25,413
1962-63 ..	18,000	32,296	2,000	52,296	34,293	6,424	2,510	2,754	45,981
1963-64 ..	11,300	72,000	1,702	85,002	35,611	12,725	2,510	21,966	72,812
1964-65 ..	22,000	55,406	2,312	79,718	42,013	1,117	5,427	14,454	63,011
1965-66 ..	62,000	49,715	3,432	1,15,147	42,437	13,246	10,736	36,086	1,09,505
1966-67 ..	1,000	89,390	5,671	1,05,061	43,235	12,907	11,233	46,512	1,13,887

TABLE VIII (iv-*a*)—*Receipts, Notified Area, Narendra Nagar*

Year	Receipts (in rupees)						
	Government grants	Water tax	Toll tax	*Tahbazari*	Slaughter houses	Other receipts	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1960-61 ..	17,175	..	36,542	420	..	13,572	67,709
1961-62 ..	21,609	..	39,030	425	..	7,308	68,372
1962-63 ..	14,082	..	46,358	377	132	10,040	70,989
1963-64 ..	10,089	..	51,022	406	250	16,834	78,601
1964-65 ..	15,151	557	54,583	239	181	8,302	79,013
1965-66 ..	16,061	3,568	61,647	401	84	34,962	1,16,723
1966-67 ..	16,222	6,591	59,206	379	75	22,056	1,04,629



TABLE VIII (iv-*b*) –*Expenditure, Notified Area, Narendra Nagar*

Year	Expenditure (in rupees)					
	General administration	Public health and sanitation	Public works	Water supply	Lighting	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1960-61	45,015	4,378	23,433	2,243	2,502	77,571
1961-62	28,624	4,787	22,424	2,469	2,378	60,682
1962-63	28,550	6,091	33,508	6,807	2,703	79,659
1963-64	32,278	6,966	26,770	5,962	1,793	73,769
1964-65	22,530	6,735	23,234	14,452	5,418 (6,152)*	78,521
1965-66	57,749	11,618	33,276	9,630	7,476	1,19,749
1966-67	58,967	10,927	16,795	10,121	5,485	1,02,296

*Miscellaneous

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TABLE VIII (v-a)—*Receipts (in rupees), Notified Area, Devaprayag*

Year	House tax	Toll tax	Tahbazari and rent of buildings	Contribution	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1961-62	1,926	34,093	771	27,042	2,617	66,449
1962-63	1,807	18,962	696	23,530	3,616	48,611
1963-64	1,792	39,341	559	13,585	28,311	83,588
1964-65	1.399	54,266	455	16,427	10,245	82,792
1965-66	1.446	51,648	1,594	34,743	64,364	1.53,795
1966-67	1,280	67,379	1,536	16,471	818,941	1.05,607



TABLE VIII (v-*b*)—*Expenditure (in rupees), Notified Area, Devaprayag*

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and Public Health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1961-62	11,838	..	360	7,495	34,065	53,758
1962-63	12,021	120	360	7,262	26,960	46,723
1963-64	13,316	500	540	16,836	28,425	59,617
1964-65	19,159	3,272	540	17,858	53,297	94,126
1965-66	19,708	452	540	29,536	1,00,895	1,51,131
1966-67	24,729	240	540	55,560	44,780	1,25,849

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TABLE VIII (vi-a) —*Receipts, Town Area, Kirtinagar*

Year	Receipts (in rupees)				
	Government grants	Toll tax	Slaughter houses	Other receipts]	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6
1961-62	2,700	..	..	2,356	5,056
1962-63	2,000	..	..	1,850	3,850
1963-64	2,000	7,582	..	410	9,992
964-65	3,300	34,180	94	439	38,013
965-66	11,427	25,875	..	2,076	39,378
66-67	7,090	38,669	295		46,054



TABLE VIII (vi-*b*) –*Expenditure, Town Area, Kirtinagar*

Year	Expenditure (in rupees)					
	General administration and collection charges	Public health and sanitation	Public works	Water supply	Lighting	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1961-62 ..	3,128	436	3,700	..	..	7,264
1962-63	3,662	..	2,147	..	..	5,811
1963-64	2,895	424	4,431	..	..	7,750
1964-65	7,113	3,626	7,298	3,205	..	21,242
1965-66	13,367	4,151	40,950	..	2,050	60,518
1966-67	12,585	3,500	31,030	..	..	47,115

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TABLE IX—*Education*

Year	Junior Basic			Senior Basic			Higher Secondary		
	Schools	Students		Schools	Students		Schools	Students	
		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1961-62 ..	488	15,739	1,698	42	3,620	125	6	1,565	307
1962-63 ..	519	17,384	2,694	43	3,756	164	7	1,834	337
1963-64 ..	548	19,075	3,716	50	4,052	217	8	1,935	371
1964-65 ..	620	20,125	5,960	59	4,998	252	8	2,161	424
1965-66 ..	626	22,371	7,051	72	5,473	342	8	2,278	407
1966-67 ...	626	22,954	7,773	75	5,664	334	8	2,245	430

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TABLE X—*Livelihood Pattern*, 1961

Workers and non-workers	District total	Rural total	Urban total
1	2	3	4
Total workers	2,24,175	2,21,253	2,922
Cultivator	2,08,053	2,07,991	62
Agricultural labour	673	673	..
In mining, quarrying, forestry, fishing, hunting and in activities connected with live-stock, plantation, orchards and allied spheres	1,631	1,614	17
At household industry	5,370	5,265	105
In manufacturing other than household industry	410	292	118
In construction	1,022	947	75
In trade and commerce	832	527	305
In transport, storage and communications	418	303	115
In other services	5,766	3,641	2,125
Non-workers	1,23,561	1,18,887	4,674
Total population ..	3,47,736	3,40,140	7,596

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TABLE XI—*Fairs*

Village/Town	Name of fair	Date	Approximate attendance
	2	3	4
	Devaprayag Tahsil		
Bargura ..	Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 8 ..	1,000
Chamrara ..	Danda Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 10 ..	1,000
Chandrabandi ..	Chandrabadni ..	.. Bhadra	3,000
Chandrabadni ..	Sri Kunjapuri Yatra ..	Chaitra, *krishna* 8 ..	3,000
Danda ..	Kaila Pir ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 10 ..	1,000
Dangchaura ..	Dangchaura Thoulu ..	Vaisakha, *krishna* 7 ..	1,000
Devaprayag ..	Basant Panchami ..	Magha, *sukla* 5	4,000
Dhatyo ..	Banjagri ..	.. Kartika	3,000
Digoli ..	Digoli Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 8, 12 ..	1,500
Gainthla ..	Nagela Devta ...	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 5 ..	5,000
Gomukh Pauri	Thoulu ...	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 8 ..	1,000
Hindola Khal ..	Fateld ...	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 5 ..	5,000
Hisaruja ..	Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 8 ..	1,700
Hollyag Khal ..	Hollyag ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 11 ..	3,000
Jagdhar ..	Pauri-ka-Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 10 ..	1,000
Khand Saund ..	Nagendra Devta ..	Vaisakha ..	2,500
Kharki ..	Thoulu ...	... Vaisakha, *krishna* 8 ..	1,000
Kunjapuri ..	Sri Kunjapuri Yatra ...	Chaitra, *krishna* 8 ..	600
Lawa ..	Vaisakha Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha 10, 11	6,000
Mahar ..	Chameshwar Mahadeva ...	Magha	2,000
Mald ..	Mald ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 6 ..	5,000
Pali ..	Pali Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 7 ..	2,000
Palkot ..	Pali Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 7 ..	2,000
Pokhari ..	Baisakh ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 4, ..	4,000
Randghar ..	Thoulu ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 8 ..	2,500
Sarpoli ..	Jagdajat ..	.. Pausa	3,000
Suryaprayag ..	Bikhot ..	.. Vaisakha, *krishna* 1 ..	6,000

[*Contd.*

TABLE XI—*Fairs*— (Concld.)

Village/Town	Name of fair	Date	Approximate attendance
1	2	3	4
	Pratapnagar Tahsil		
Bhingwali	Aginisan	Vaisakha, *krishna* 13	1,000
Dhanoli	Jakhni	Vaisakha, *krishna* 6	2,000
Gelam	Khandogi	Vaisakha, *krishna* 9	4,000
Godolia	Godolia	Vaisakha, *krishna* 8	3,000
Kotchauri	Gali	Jaistha, *krishna* 5	4,000
Kothyara	Kothyara	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3, 4	3,000
Molana	Pankhal	Vaisakha, *krishna* 7	1,000
Mukhan	Sem Mukhan	Agrahayana	5,000
Petaw	Kasyan	Vaisakha, *krishna* 9	3,000
Pekhi	Pekhi	Vaisakha, *krishna* 2	3,000
	Tehri Tahsil		
Aglar river	Bhind Maun-ka-Mela	Asadha	3,000
Aglar river	Manj Maun-ka-Mela	Asadha	2,000
Bandwal Goan	Bandwal Goan	Chaitra	700
Biror	Nagthan	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3	5,000
Bhetiyana	Kali Devi	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3	1,000
Chham	Chham	Magha	1,000
Chhanangaon	Chhanangoan	Asvina, *krishna* 8	2,000
Gajwangaon	Agram Thoulu	Chaitra	1,200
Gounsari	Gajja Thoulu	Chaitra	6,000
Jamti	Jamti	Vaisakha, *krishna* 5	2,000
Jaindasu	Churiya Kheti Thoulu	Chaitra	1,000
Kamnad	Kamnad Thoulu	Chaitra	1,000
Kanda	Suri-ka-Mela	Chaitra	1,000
Khyarsi	Khyarsi	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3 to 5	1,000
Lagrasu	Jakh	Vaisakha, *krishna* 2	1,000
Lalotan	Lalotan	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3	1,000
Manjura	Chamba Thoulu	Chaitra	2,000
Mentrali	Thettud-ka-Mela	Vaisakha, *krishna* 5	2,000
Moldhar	Moldhar	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3, 4	1,000
Nakoti	Dharu Mela	Chaitra	2,000
Panchbadi	Panchbadi	Vaisakha, *krishna* 5	700
Saund Koti	Badshahee Thoulu	Chaitra	5,000
Srikot	Srikot	Vaisakha, *krishna* 3	2,500
Surkanda	Surkanda	Jyaistha, *sukla* 10	4,000
Takrauli	Takrauli	Vaisakha, *krishna* 2	3,000

TABLE XII—*Live-stock Population*, 1966

Live-stock and poultry	District total
1	2
Cows and bulls—	
Males over 3 years	91,904
Females over 3 years	62,639
Young-stock (male) 3 years and under	18,501
Young-stock (female) 3 years and under	27,580
Total	2,00,624
Buffaloes—	
Males over 3 years	5,571
Females over 3 years	74,746
Young-stock (male) 3 years and under	3,828
Young-stock (female) 3 years and under	18,311
Total	1,02,456
Sheep	34,499
Goats	1,04,497
Horses and ponies	1,359
Mules	1,019
Donkeys	13
Camels	..
Pigs	135
Yaks	4
Poultry—	
Fowls	14,097
Ducks	11
Others	18
Total	14,126

TABLE XIII—*Inspection Houses, Dak Bungalows, etc.*

Village/Town	Name	Managing Department
1	2	3
	Tahsil Devaprayag	
Agarkhal	Rest House	Forest
Chirbatiya	Do.	Do.
Dadi Ghandial ...	Do.	Do.
Dangehaura	Do.	Do.
Devaprayag	Rest Shed	Do.
Devaprayag	Inspection House	Public Works
Jakhni	Rest House	Forest
Jurana	Do.	Do.
Muni-ki-Reti	Rest House (new)	Do.
Muni-ki-Reti ...	Rest House (old)	Do.
Muni-ki-Reti	Rest House (annexe) . ..	Do.
Narendra Nagar ...	Inspection House	Public Works
Tamiyar	Rest Shed	Forest
Paunli	Rest House	Do.
	Tahsil Pratapnagar	
Amarsar	Rest House	Forest
Chamiyala ..	Do.	Do.
Dwari	Rest Shed	Do.
Gaunli	Rest House	Do.
Ghansali	Do.	Do.
Ghonti	Do.	Do.
Lambgaon Bhadura ..	Inspection House	Public Works
Mubhmalgaon ..	Rest House	Forest
Panwali Bhillang ..	Do.	Do.
Paukhal Simlasu ..	Inspection House	Public Works
Thati Kathoor ..	Do.	Do.

TABLE XIII—*Inspection Houses Dak Bungalows, etc.*—(Concld.)

Village/Town	Name	Managing Department
1	2	3
	Tahsil Tehri	
Chamba	Rest House	.. Forest
Chapraha	Do.	.. Do.
Deolsari	Do.	.. Do.
Dhanolti	Do.	.. Do.
Gaja	Do.	.. Do.
Ghansali	Do.	.. Do.
Ghonti	Do.	.. Do.
Jakhani	Do.	.. Do.
Kandukhal ..	Inspection House ..	.. Public Works
Kaimti	Rest House	.. Forest
Kaurhia	Do.	.. Do.
Laluri	Do.	.. Do.
Magra	Do.	.. Do.
Paunli Ranichauri ..	Do.	.. Do.
Rokhlikhal	Do.	.. Do.
Saiji	Do.	.. Do.
Siansu	Do.	.. Do.
Tehri	Dak Bungalow	.. Zila Parishad
Tehri (Motibagh) ..	Inspection House ..	.. Public Works

TABLE XIV—*Dharmsalas, Hotels (Licensed), etc.*

Village/Town	Name	Facilities	Management
1	2	3	4
	Tahsil Devaprayag		
Narnendra Nagar ..	Rajmata Dharmsala	Lodging only	Private
Taila	Baba Kali Kamli Dharmsala ..	Do.	Do.
	Tahsil Pratapnagar		
Ghutta	Baba Kali Kamli Dharmsala ..	Do.	Do.
Paewali	Do.	Do.	Do.
Thati Kathoor (Budha Kedar)	Do.	Do.	Do.
	Tahsil Tehri		
Bhaldiyana	Bhaldiyana Dharmsala	Do.	Do.
Cham	Cham Dharmsala	Do.	Do.
Dhanolti	Baba Kali Kamli Dharmsala ...	Do.	Do.
Kanatal	Do. ..	Do.	Do.
Tehri	Tehri Dharmsala	Do.	Do.
Tholdhar	Tholdhar Dharmsala	Do.	Do.

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TABLE XV—*Post-offices*

Name/Place	Class	Facilities
1	2	3
Tehri	Head Post-office ..	Savings Bank, telegraph, telephone
Anjanisain	Departmental sub-office ..	Savings Bank
Chamma	Do. ..	Savings Bank, telegraph, telephone
Ghansali	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Kirtinagar	Do. ..	Savings Bank, telegraph, telephone
Muni-ki-Reti	Extra Departmental sub-office	Savings Bank
Narendra Nagar ..	Departmental sub-office ..	Savings Bank, telegraph, telephone
Pilkhi	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Shivanandnagar ..	Do. ..	Savings Bank, telephone, telegraph
Tehri Kutchery ..	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Athoor	Extra Departmental branch office ..	..
Bagiyal	Do. ..	..
Bhaldiayana	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Barkot	Do. ..	Do.
Cherabdhar	Do. ..	Do.
Dharkot Udkot ..	Do. ..	Do.
Dharkot Dharmandal ..	Do. ..	Do.
Dhauntri	Do. ..	Do.
Gadolia	Do. ..	Do.
Gairi	Do. ..	..
Kafalpani	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Kotwalgaon	Do. ..	Do.
Lambgaon	Do. ..	Do.
Manjaph	Do. ..	Do.
Magraon	Do. ..	Do.
Mukhem	Do. ..	Do.
Madan Negi	Do. ..	Do.
Nail	Do. ..	Do.
Okhla	Do. ..	Do.
Pangarkhal	Do. ..	Do.
Pratapnagar	Do.	Savings Bank, telegraph
Raimer	Do.	Savings Bank
Rajakhet	Do.	Do.
Raunad	Do.	Do.
Saur Uppu ..	Do.	Do.
Serain	Do.	Do.
Serabhagwan ..	Do.	Do.
Thatidagar	Do.	Do.
Thauldhar	Do.	Do.
Thapla	Do.	Do.
Hindolakhal ..	Do.	Do.

Contd

TABLE XV—*Post-offices*— (contd.)

Name Place	Class	Facilities
1	2	3
Jamnikhal	Extra Departmental branch office	Savings Bank
Jakhnidhar ..	Do.	Do.
Khandogi	Do.	Do.
Lalurikhal	Do.	Do.
Palethi	Do.	Do.
Tyuna	Do.	Do.
Paurikhal	Do.	Do.
Pujargoan	Do.	..
Chaka	Do.	Savings Bank
Chopriyalgaon ..	Do.	..
Gajja	Do.	Savings Bank
Jadgoan	Do.	Do.
Pokhri	Do.	Do.
Ranakot	Do.	Do.
Ranachauri	Do.	Do.
Shantipur Sondhi ..	Do.	Do.
Tungoli	Do.	Do.
Akhori	Do.	Do.
Bhatwara	Do.	..
Binaykhal	Do.	Savings Bank
Chamyala	Do.	Do.
Dangi	Do.	..
Dharidhundsir ..	Do.	Saving Bank
Dhopradhar	Do. ..	Do.
Ghuttu	Do. ..	Do.
Kathoor	Do. ..	Do.
Kafalgaon	Do. ..	Do.
Mainghadhar ..	Do. ..	Do.
Muyalgaon	Do. ..	..
Pokhar ..	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Silyara	Do. ..	Do.
Thanti	Do. ..	Do.
Badyargarh	Do. ..	..
Bhalegaon	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Bharpurkhal ..	Do. ..	Do.
Dangchaura	Do. ..	..
Ghandiyaldhar ..	Do. ..	..
Kilkileshwar ..	Do. ..	..
Shanti Bazar ..	Do. ..	..
Silkakhal	Do. ..	..
Takoli	Do. ..	..

TABLE XV—*Post-offices*— (concld.)

Name/Place	Class	Facilities
1	2	3
Duadhar ..	Extra Departmental Branch office ..	Savings Bank
Jajal	Do.	Do.
Jardhargaon	Do. ..	Do.
Nagin	Do. ..	Do.
Phakot	Do. ..	Do.
Bhaneldi	Do. ..	Do.
Bhatgaon	Do. ..	Do.
Devtadhar	Do. ..	Do.
Ghonti	Do. ...	Do.
Gauna	Do. ...	Do.
Kirath	Do. ..	..
Kothiyara	Do. ..	Savings Bank
Samendhidhar ..	Do. ..	Do.

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CONVERSION FACTORS

Money—

1 pie=0.52 paise
1 pice=1.56 paise

Linear Measure—

1 inch=2.54 centimetres
1 foot=30.48 centimetres
1 yard=91·44 centimetres
1 mile=1.61 kilometres

Square Measure—

1 square foot=0.093 square metre
1 square yard=0.836 square metre
1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres
1 acre—0.405 hectare

Cubic Measure—

1 cubit foot=0.028 cubic metre

Measure of Capacity—

1 gallon (Imperial)=4.55 litres
1 seer* (80 tolas)=0.937 litre

Measure of Weight—

1 tola=11.66 grams
1 chhatak=58.32 grams
1 seer*=933.10 grams
1 maund=37.32 kilograms
1 ounce (Avoirdupois)=28.35 grams
1 pound (Aviordupois)=453.59 grams
1 hundredweight=50.80 kilograms
1 ton=1016.05 kilograms=1.016 metric tonnes

Thermometer scale—

1° Fahrenheit—9/50° Centigrade + 32

*As defined in Indian Standard Weight Act, 1939

GLOSSARY OF INDIAN WORDS

Abadi	Habitation
Amin	Petty official attached to court of justice and entrusted with work of realising government dues
Doli	Litter
Gotra	Eponymous group descended from a common ancestor in the male line of descent
Gurukula	Residential educational institution at guru's own place
Jalsamadhi	Voluntary death by drowning
Khasra	Field index
Kuthar	Storehouse
Mahal	Unit of land, comprising several villages, under separate engagement for payment of revenue
Muntakhib	Record showing all fields and names of their cultivators
Naib	Deputy, assistant
Panda	Pilgrim-priest
Pathshala	School
Patha (*Prastha*)	Measure of grain, equal to two seers
Patti	Group of villages in the hills
Rakmtehrij	Record giving list of fields in respect of each cultivator
Sapinda	An agnate within seven generations
Sayana	Village elder
Thakur	Rajput chief
Thok	Block
Thokdar	Landed proprietor
Yajna	Sacrifice


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